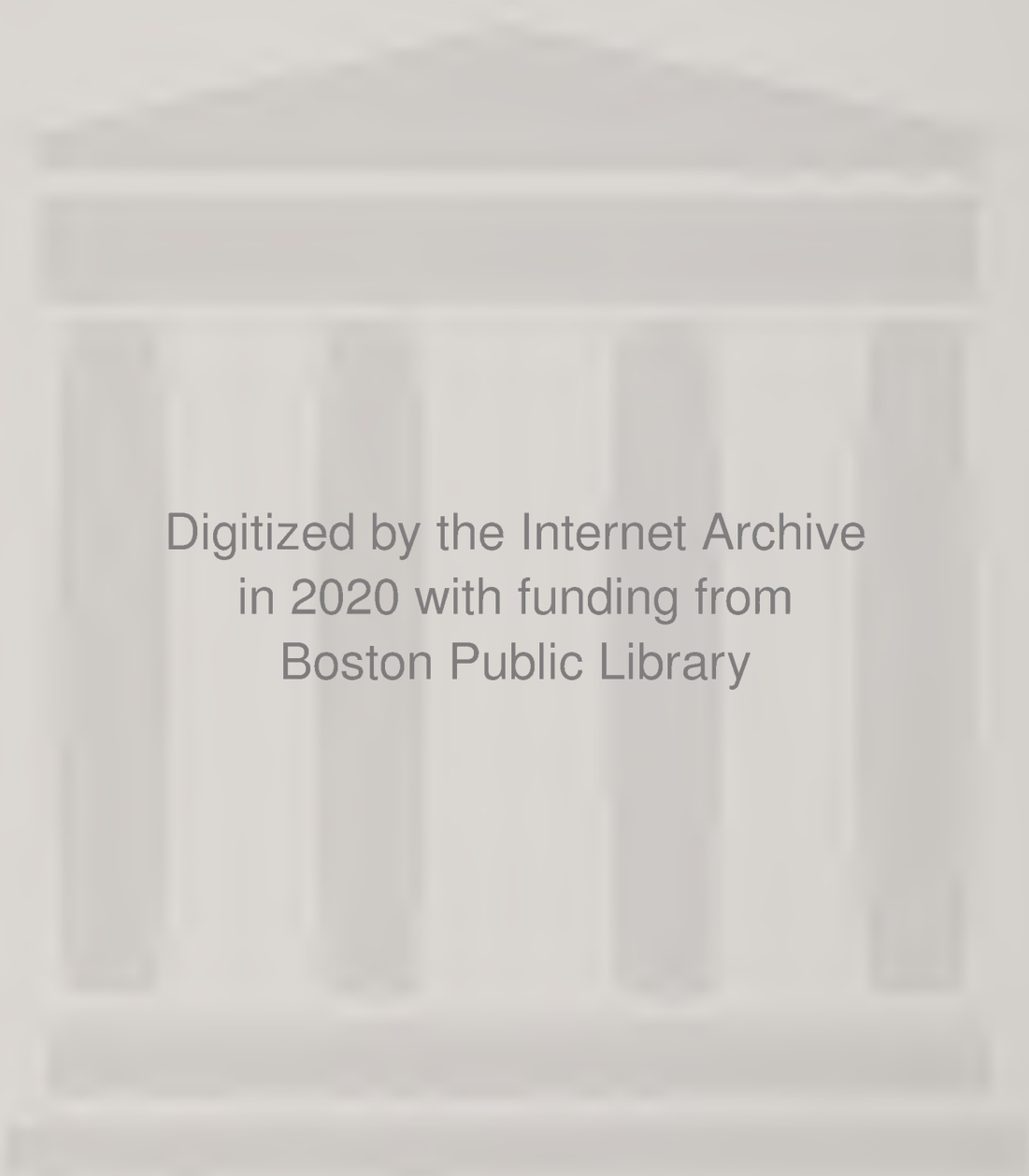
ANNUAL REPORT

WESTHAMPTON
MASSACHUSETTS

2012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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS

TOWN
OF
WESTHAMPTON

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012

DEDICATION

RALPH AND EUTHECIA HANCEWICZ

This year's Town Report is dedicated Ralph and Thecia Hancewicz, thirty-six year residents of Reservoir Road, who recently moved out of town to be closer to family. We want to recognize and thank them for the role they played in making our community a great place to live.

Both spent many years teaching our young people at Hampshire Regional High School and both have been active in town government. Thecia served as an Assessor for six years, and on the Bicentennial Committee. Ralph served on the Recreation Committee, Finance Committee, and the Bicentennial Committee, before settling in for twenty eight years as Moderator. His calm, thoughtful leadership throughout the years made town meetings productive and enjoyable. It is not an easy job, but Ralph excelled, to our benefit.

After retiring, Ralph and Thecia did not slow down! Both became deeply involved in the campaign and construction of the new Westhampton Public Library. Thecia determinedly organized volunteers and fundraising to secure the funding needed to proceed. Ralph spent many hours painting and doing carpentry work once the construction was underway. The existence of this beautiful addition to our community is a result, in no small part, of their dedication.

We will miss their presence in our community, but know they won't be strangers. They say all clouds have silver linings: this one will be shining over Rehoboth!

REPORT OF THE SELECTBOARD

The year 2012 began with James Huston as Chairman, Brian Mulvehill as Clerk, and John Shaw. After the annual election, the Board reorganized with John Shaw as Chairman, Brian Mulvehill as Clerk and James Huston. The Board continued to rely on Margaret Parsons, Administrative Assistant, for information, advice and contacts needed to perform the job. This year we again received the A1 Bond rating which is a reflection of her work as Town Accountant. I am sure you all know that in 2013 the Board/Town is losing her unbelievable dedication and her wealth of knowledge. She continues the task of compiling records, letters, and documents for the next three people who will replace her. Margie, thanks again for a great year together.

We continue to work with departments in town on the following projects:

South Rd. (Loud Bridge) continues to move forward. Through the efforts of David Blakesley, Margaret Parsons, Huntley Associates and State Representative Peter Kocot, we have the funding to widen and replace the bridge in 2013. The Town will oversee the project with Huntley Associates as the consultant. Utility poles have been moved in preparation for work to begin.

Phase #2 of Westhampton Woods continues to move along well. The Board signed a letter of support for eight additional units; the plan is to break ground early in 2013. Meetings were conducted with the Hilltown Community Development Corporation, HCDC, to go over recommendations for the new units. HCDC has been agreeable to recommendations from the town, e.g., installing a generator and improving the alarm system to eliminate false alarms. Town members serving on an advisory board for the project are Josh Hickey, Walter Kress, Pat Miller, Ellie Scott, and John Shaw.

Emergency planning meetings were started after so many large weather events. A group of town officials and interested residents compiled suggestions. The following recommendations were adapted to the existing Town Emergency Response Plan by the Selectboard: residents should be prepared with emergency supplies, water, batteries etc to make it thru the first 48 hours; AN EMERGENCY DURING THAT TIME SHOULD BE PHONED IN TO 911; Emergency personal will canvas the town as soon as it is safe; residents should stay off the roads; neighbors need to check in with each other; if the emergency continues (power outages) it will be determined if and when

to open a welcoming center at the Elementary School during the day to charge batteries, enjoy warm beverages and companionship, and obtain information updates; and lastly, Emergency Management personal will monitor the situation and advise the Selectboard. We thank the Emergency Management Director, Chief Norris, for his assistance with this; he or his assistant will be in command. The Regional Shelter located at Smith School, Elm Street, Northampton will be open for residents needing overnight shelter. The new reverse 911 system will go into effect in 2013 to assist in emergencies. You will receive information on how it will work.

Meetings with The Board of Library Trustees, Conservation Commission and Highway Superintendent determined a solution for flagging the wetland restriction in the **library field**. The area was mapped out, and flagged. The Highway Dept placed boulders to mark the boundary, and the Conservation Commission will oversee the restriction held by the Town.

Personnel issues included updating Insurance for Fire, Police, and EMS into one company to get better coverage at a reduced cost. The Board started to review a Personnel Policy for town employees, with hopes of adapting it in 2013. The residents voted to change the Town Treasurer and Tax Collector to an appointed position at the end of the current term, subject to passage of ballots questions at the June 2013 election.

Route 66 (Main Road) received funds, and a contract was awarded to strip and overlay the road. The road needed to be repaired and this will help preserve it. The project is expected to start in early 2013---thanks to David Blakesley for staying on top of this and securing the funding.

Upon advisement by Westhampton's Attorney, the Board voted to institute a **NO ALCOHOL** policy for all Town Property usage.

Received notice from The City of Northampton that as of June 30, 2013 they will no longer provide **ambulance service** to Westhampton on a contracted basis. The Selectboard established a committee to study and recommend options for ambulance coverage starting July 1, 2013. The committee consists of Chief Chris Norris, Deputy Chief Lee Douchkoff, Deputy Chief Steve Holt and EMS Coordinator Robert Miller.

Town Annex The residents voted to fund $85,000 from free cash to provide handicap access and a handicap bathroom on the main floor. The work will begin in 2013 and includes moving offices and

constructing a new ramp on the rear of the building. Earlier in the year, thanks to unnamed volunteers, motion lights were added to the front of the building. Last summer, lightening struck the house behind the Annex and reached the Annex. Insurance covered most of the office equipment and the alarm system that were fried by the strike. At least nine Boards, Committees, or Departments now use this building and we soon will need to find room for a Treasurer and an Accountant.

Highway Department Scott Tirrell completed the six month probation period and moved to a permanent position. Members of the crew continue to take classes to keep them qualified in the performance of their jobs. With the advice of Chief David White and Dave Blakesley, two solar stop signs were placed at the intersection of North Rd., Easthampton Rd. and Kings Highway. (They were vandalized on the first night and replaced at our expense.) It is an intersection that has seen too many accidents, due to people running the stop signs, so we hope this is the solution.

This department continues to be our right arm for so many small projects that need work. The list would be very long but if you see a light working again, freshly painted sign poles and new signs, stairs repaired, and furniture moved, etc., it was the highway crew. We thank David, Bill, Jerry and Scott for all they do over and above taking care of our roads which are the best plowed and pothole free in the area.

Town Clerk Patty Cotton has worked hard keep us running legally and efficiently. With all of the special elections and primary elections, Presidential election, town census, etc., her time is stretched thin. She continues to remind all of us on boards and committees to post our meeting legally or no meeting will be legal. We thank her for all of her hard work and we also thank all of her poll workers for assisting with elections.

Board of Health The Board continues to move forward without a Health Agent. The position has been advertised, but we have no response as of yet. Thank you to board members for picking up the slack as we try and correct this problem. The Board decided to go to single stream recycling in 2013. We recognize Don Fox for the wonderful work he does at the Transfer Station. The next time you are there look around at how clean and organized it is.

Tree Warden Steve Holt continues to work with David Blakesley to identify diseased or damaged trees before they become a problem and he plants new trees as needed. He continues to work with the utility companies regarding line trimming. Steve attends Mass. Tree Warden Conferences to educate himself on current information. This is another behind the scene job that just gets done.

Open Space Committee Many hours went into the update of our Open Space Plan. This is a labor intensive job which takes many meetings to complete for acceptance by the state. The committee and supporters worked on a proposal for residents to accept a Community Preservation Act. It did not pass but we recognize their hard work and thank them for their passion.

Library The roof of the Library now has working photovoltaic (solar) units. The solar will provide the building with electricity, with hopefully an extra amount left over. The Library Building Committee should be proud of the finished product of a very busy building. They will soon disband and hopefully know how appreciative we all are.

This covers only some of the Departments, Boards and Committees that continue to work for you. The Board is so thankful that you keep giving of your time and talents. We all sometime forget just how much work needs to be done on a daily basis to keep Westhampton running (and legal) on a small budget---we all dislike taxes. We need to keep Westhampton a great place to call home.

RESIGNATIONS IN 2012

Pat Warren, Council on Aging
Gail Wright, Council on Aging
John Guimond, Transfer Station Attendant
Bob Turner, Board of Health
Robert Messier, Veterans Agent
Josh Mathieu, Health Agent

APPOINTMENTS IN 2012

Wendy Blow, Council on Aging
Lillian Baxter, Council on Aging
William Magrone, Council on Aging
Donald Fox, Transfer Station Attendant

Jonathan Kahane, Library Trustee
Tom Martin, Board Of Health
Stephanie Dalton, Board of Health
Deborah Barthelette, Elections Officer
Art Pichette, Finance Committee
Joseph Henning, Veterans Agent
Robbie Merrington, Cultural Council
Tad Weiss, Open Space Committee

Respectfully submitted,

John F. Shaw Jr., Chair
Brian Mulvehill, Clerk
James Huston

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Vital records are kept by the Town Clerk. The State recommends not printing the names of births due to privacy regulations.

Births 9

Westhampton welcomed 3 girls and 6 boys

No Marriages

Deaths 4

7/20/2012	Leon F. Dufresne
10/22/2012	Kinsley A. Ball III
11/3/2012	Olga H. Hathaway
12/3/2012	Janet D. Rajter

DOG LICENSES FOR 2010:

	# Sold	
Males	5	$ 40.00
Females	4	$ 32.00
Spay	29	$116.00
Neuter	31	$124.00
Total Dog Licenses		**$312.00**
Kennels 4 dogs or less	3	$45.00
Kennels 10 dogs plus	2	$100.00
Total Kennel Licenses		**$145.00**

Dog Licenses are available in March each year. All dogs six months or older must be licensed by June 30th and a current rabies certificate is required. Per State Law, any person whose dog is not licensed by the June deadline is subject to fines and penalties.

Town Clerk Fees Collected

Burial Permits	3	$ 60.00
Death Certificates	20	$ 100.00
Birth Certificates	28	$ 140.00
Marriage Certificates	7	$ 35.00
Business Certificate	4	$ 80.00
Planning & ZBA Permits	3	$ 432.00
Zoning Bylaws	3	$ 45.00
Voter Extract	2	$ 40.00
Total		**$ 932.00**

Population from local census **1684**

Total Registered Voters	**1260**
Democrats	234
Republicans	132
Green-Rainbow	6
Unenrolled	882
Designation	6

At the Annual Town Meeting held May 12, 2012 it was voted to amend the Town Bylaws by changing Article 28 to read the Town Caucus will be held on the second Monday in April instead of the last Monday in April. The changes to bylaw's were submitted and approved by the Massachusetts Attorney General.

The Town Clerk holds office hours Monday night from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM and Friday mornings from 8:00 AM to noon. If you can not make it during these hours please call 413-203-3080 and I will be glad to meet you at another time. Services included providing copies or birth, death and marriage certificates; issuing marriage licenses, dog licenses, business licenses and special permit/variance applications; voter registration; and information needed for all elections. I am looking for anyone available to work elections, so if you are interested, please let me know. All meetings and agendas are posted on the bulletin board outside the Town Clerk's office and in the mailbox in front of town hall or if you have internet access the Town website www.westhampton-ma.com

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia W. Cotton, Town Clerk

REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR
AS OF JUNE 30, 2012

	Real Estate Balances as of June 30, 2012	Personal Property Balances as of June 30, 2012	Motor Vehicle Balances as of June 30, 2012
2012	$97,990.00	$2,026.00	$17,928.00
2011	$50,328.00	$5,563.00	$1,397.00
2010	$22,477.00	$1,243.00	$ 765.00
2009	$10,439.00	$1,091.00	$1,501.00
Prior Years	$55,780.00	$8,052.00	$16,024.00
TOTAL	$237,014.00	$17,975.00	$37,615.00

Grand Total $292,604.00

All Real Estate and Personal Property taxes are due on the quarterly system, with due dates as follows: 1st quarter - August 1; 2nd quarter - November 1; 3rd quarter - February 1; 4th quarter - May 1. To keep postage to a minimum, only two mailings will continue with two quarters in each mailing.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Blakesley, Tax Collector

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Balance July 1, 2011	$ 675,488.83
Receipts	5,729,903.33
Disbursements	5,247,277.39
Balance June 30, 2012	$ 1,158,114.77

Easthampton Savings Capital CD	1,013.56
Easthampton Savings Bank Collector	96,918.79
Easthampton Savings Sweep	433,317.17
Easthampton Savings Deputy Collector	7,613.08
Easthampton Savings Bank Charity	2,169.60
MMDT General	63,144.75
MMDT Cultural Council	3,004.03
MMDT Septic Grant	78,978.35
Peoples Checking	7,244.70
Peoples Collector	76,586.08
Peoples Money Market	1,327.82
Peoples Septic	5,222.83
Unibank	289,724.54
Unibank Online Collection	56,707.52
MMDT Charity Trust	3,415.56
MMDT Cemetery Trust	3,737.44
MMDT Veterans Trust	2,236.10
MMDT Stabilization Fund	25,752.85
Balance June 30, 2012	1,158,114.77

Interest earned - $4,209.53.

Respectfully submitted

Margaret A. Parsons, Treasurer

Combined Balance Sheet - All Funds and Account Groups
June 30, 2012

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trust and Agency	Long-Term Debt	Totals
Assets						
Cash	$ 756,603	$ 354,120	$ -	$ 47,392	$ -	$ 1,158,115
Investments	-	-	-		-	-
Taxes Receivable:						
Real property	238,675					238,675
Personal property	17,975					17,975
Other Taxes	53					53
Tax liens	4,941					4,941
						-
	261,644	-	-	-	-	261,644
Allowance for abatements and exemptions	99,799	-	-	-	-	99,799
	161,845	-	-	-	-	161,845
Other Receivables:						
Motor vehicle and other excise	38,315					38,315
Commonwealth of Massachusetts		159,696				159,696
	38,315	159,696	-	-	-	198,011
Amounts to be Provided for Retirement of Long-Term Debt	-	-	-	-	860,000	860,000
Total Assets	$ 956,763	$ 513,816	$ -	$ 47,392	$ 860,000	$ 2,377,971

Liabilities and Fund Balances

Liabilities:						
Accrued Payroll	$ 121,488	$ 5,563		$ -	$	127,051
Deferred revenue -Property	156,851					156,851
Deferred revenue - Other Taxes	53					53
Deferred revenue - Tax Liens	4,941					4,941
Deferred revenue - MVE	38,315					38,315
Deferred revenue-Highway		159,696	-			159,696
Long-term debt				860,000		860,000
Total Liabilities	321,648	165,259	-	- 860,000		1,346,907
Fund Balances:						
Reserved:						
Continuing Approriations	29,230					29,230
Encumbrances	1,766					1,766
Expenditures	88,000					88,000
Unreserved:						
Designated		375,600	-	47,392		422,992
Undesignated	516,119	(27,043)				489,076
Total Fund Balances	635,115	348,557	-	47,392	-	1,031,064
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	$ 956,763	$ 513,816	$ -	$ 47,392	$ 860,000	$ 2,377,971

REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTING OFFICER
JULY 1, 2011 - JUNE 30, 2012

Cash on Hand June 30, 2011		
General/Special	**$640,074.14**	
Stabilization	**$25,682.07**	
Trust	**$9,732.62**	
		$675,488.83

RECEIPTS

TAXES		
Property	3702795.11	
In Lieu of Taxes	16381.03	
Motor Vehicle Excise	209923.70	
Farm Animal Excise (Final)	451.25	
Interest and Penalties on Taxes	32031.48	3958812.47
COMM MASS		
Local Aid/Lottery	122998.00	
Exemptions	9294.00	
PILOT	32.00	
Chapter 70 Schools	441989.00	
Vocational Transportation	4729.00	
Charter School	29434.00	
State Aid to Libraries	1878.35	
Veterans Reimbursements	6455.00	
FEMA snow/Irene	51906.37	
Ice Storm	5711.00	
Medicaid	14189.36	688616.08
GRANTS AND GIFTS		
Dog Refund	201.70	
Public Health Grant	849.65	
COA – Federal	2827.62	
COA – State	3476.72	
Cultural Council	3870.00	
HCOG Wellness Grant	300.00	
Insurance reimbursement	14300.17	
Library Gifts	3479.00	
Library Project LEED Grant	100000.00	

Library Project Friends Gift	3131.84	
Wetlands Conservation	737.50	133174.20
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
Licenses	315.00	
Board of Assessors	32.00	
Plumbing Fees	1405.00	
Electrical Fees	1940.00	
Sanitation Fees	780.00	
Building Permits	15047.16	
Planning Board	20.00	
Zoning Board of Appeals	278.00	
Library	165.00	
Tax Collector Fees	6035.00	
Mark & Clear	840.00	
Town Clerk Fees	1027.50	
Medicare D Payment	3199.75	
Miscellaneous/refunds	9940.72	41025.13
FIRE DEPARTMENT		
Fire Dept Grants	3765.00	
HazMat	650.00	4415.00
POLICE DEPARTMENT		
Motor Vehicle Fines	1895.00	
Gun Permits	2162.50	
Reports	115.00	4172.50
BOARD OF HEALTH		
Licenses & Permits	2060.00	
Septic Design	850.00	
Perc Tests	1200.00	
Title V	1050.00	
Transfer Station Fees	48394.00	53554.00
REVOLVING FUNDS		
Fire Dept.Revolving Fund	2060.00	
Cemetery Revolving Fund	4369.00	6429.00

SCHOOL FUNDS

Choice reimbursement	28884.00	
ARRA Funds	22127.00	
REAPS grant	22242.00	
Kindergarten Grant	10000.00	
Preschool	58120.16	
Building Use	1500.00	
School Lunch	26265.68	169138.84
HIGHWAY		
Miscellaneous	831.70	
Highway Gift	50.00	
Chapter 90	105277.93	106159.63
INTEREST		
On General Fund	4109.07	
On Charity Funds	12.60	
On Cemetery Funds	10.30	
On Veterans Trust	6.48	
On Stabilization	70.78	
On Septic Grant	224.64	
On Cultural Council	9.40	4443.27
AGENCY		
Dog Licenses	435.50	
Deputy Collector Fees	3594.00	
Meals Tax	49.63	
Gun Permits	6412.50	
Police Outside Detail	6523.50	
Payroll Deductions	540177.98	557193.11
TOTAL RECEIPTS		**5,729,903.33**

NON-APPROPRIATION EXPENDITURES

TAX REFUNDS		
Property Tax	10607.98	
Motor Vehicle Excise	2796.93	4418.84

AGENCY		
Dog Licenses	434.50	
Deputy Collector Fees	3051.00	
Meals Tax	49.63	
Gun Permits	6412.50	
Police Detail	6367.50	
Payroll Deductions	534135.15	550450.58
SCHOOL REVOLVING FUNDS & GRANTS		
Early Literacy	1350.00	
REAPS grant	22242.08	
Stimulus grants	21305.09	
Kindergarten Grant	10004.74	
Preschool	34776.98	
School Lunch	25207.83	114886.72
SPECIAL REVOLVING FUNDS & GRANTS		
Cemetery Revolving	3310.54	
Cultural Council	4123.00	
225 Celebration	1402.28	
Concert Gifts	227.00	
Council on Aging Federal	1363.62	
Council on Aging State	3393.83	
Fire Dept. Revolving	2759.70	
Fire Gift	225.00	
Fire Grants	5993.86	
Chapter 90 Highway Funds	132321.58	
Insurance Reimbursement	14300.17	
Library Gifts	5949.11	
State Aid to Library	1928.58	
LEED Library Grant	25934.17	
Public Health	6438.19	
Wellness Grant	300.00	
FEMA	8897.56	218868.19
CAPITAL PROJECTS		
Library Project		3131.84
TOTAL Non-Appropriation		**887337.33**

APPROPRIATION EXPENDITURES	Budgeted	Spent
General Government		
Moderator	375.00	375.00
Selectboard Salary	3875.00	3875.00
Selectboard Expense	3700.00	3440.17
Administrative Assistant	15884.00	15884.00
Accounting Officer Salary	11395.00	11395.00
Accounting Officer Expense	2529.00	2274.94
Auditor Salary	375.00	346.44
Independent Audit	7000.00	0
Treasurer Salary	13325.00	13325.00
Treasurer Expense	5004.00	4533.05
Assessor Salary	7675.00	7466.40
Assessor Expense	7275.00	6458.56
Assessor Assistant	13999.00	11221.04
Assessor Secretary	945.00	622.37
Tax Collector Salary	13325.00	13325.00
Tax Collector Expense	10911.00	11197.31
Town Clerk Salary	10000.00	10000.00
Town Clerk Expense	4020.00	2721.67
Clerk Board of Registrars	100.00	100.00
Counsel Fees	8000.00	9279.36
Conservation Commission	200.00	0
Planning Board	200.00	0
Zoning Board of Appeals	600.00	333.00
Town Offices	18240.00	17607.58
Town Hall Upgrade		10609.53
Reserve Fund	10,000.00	
	168952.00	156390.42
Protection of Persons & Property		
Police Chief	20932.00	20932.00
Police Department	31544.00	30898.79
Fire Chief	10000.00	10000.00
Fire Department	18,344.00	18447.19
Public Safety	12,515.00	13623.08
SCBA Grant Match	10000.00	0
Emergency Management Director	341.00	341.00
Emergency Medical Services	15050.00	14847.75
Inspection Salary	13512.00	11792.96
Inspection Expense	1,250.00	562.68
Tree Warden	525.00	525.00
Tree Warden Expense	1500.00	1070.95
	135513.00	123041.40

Education		
School Committee	1155.00	1092.50
Elementary School	1290080.00	1293583.09
Hampshire Regional	1068069.00	1068069.00
Hampshire Regional Debt	80787.00	80787.00
School Choice	25000.00	15000.00
Charter School	34170.00	39198.00
Vocational	235000.00	194395.00
Vocational Transportation	42383.00	39246.40
	2776644.00	2731370.99
Public Works		
Highway Salaries	189625.00	183314.03
Highway Department	174800.00	167791.38
Snow Removal	75000.00	74709.24
Backhoe	98000.00	97364.04
Cemetery	5471.00	5471.00
	542896.00	528649.72
Human Services		
Board of Health	70255.00	57064.53
Health Agent	8200.00	3729.65
Hilltown Resource Mgt Coop	4269.00	4268.10
Animal Inspector	709.00	709.00
Council on Aging	1200.00	2696.48
COA Coordinator	1000.00	999.96
Veterans	9000.00	7253.00
	94633.00	76720.72
Culture & Recreation		
Library	72289.00	74643.00
Historical Commission	1,200.00	738.91
Memorial Day	200.00	
Cultural Council	75.00	
	73764.00	75381.91
Debt		
Highway Bldg/ Firetruck	125000.00	125000.00
Interest	44300.00	44300.00
	169300.00	169300.00
Intergovernmental		
Hampshire Council of Governments	1521.00	1520.80
State Assessments	13614.00	13694.00
Pioneer Valley Planning Comm.	221.00	241.05

	15356.00	15455.85
Unclassified		
Hampshire County Retirement	123875.00	121514.00
Unemployment	15000.00	9268.00
Group Health Insurance	320000.00	285977.56
Medicare	22000.00	19845.73
Insurance & Bonds	62000.00	60380.65
	542875.00	496985.94
Total Appropriation	4519933.00	4373296.95
Total Non-appropriation		887337.33
Net accrual		-13356.89
Grand Total Expenditures		**5247277.39**
Cash on Hand June 30, 2012		
General/Special	**1,122,972.82**	
Stabilization	**25,752.85**	
Trust	**$9,389.10**	**$1,158,114.77**

This is my final report as Town Accounting Officer. I appreciate the cooperation of the Selectboard, Finance Committee, and all the departments throughout the years to keep our town fiscally sound.

Respectfully submitted

Margaret A. Parsons, Treasurer

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

As of January 1, 2012 members of the Finance Committee and their respective terms were:

Ellice Gonzalez	2012
Margaret Parsons	2012
Kurt Heidinger	2012
Vacancy	2012
Mark Thornhill	2013
Owen Bowman	2013
Celeste Whiting	2013
Lee Craig	2014
Vacancy	2014
Maryanne Duggan	2014

Edward Zawacki was elected at the June 2012 election to serve until 2015. Ellice Gonzalez and Margaret Parsons were also re-elected for three years. Lee Craig resigned in December. We thank him for his years of service and leadership through difficult times. Arthur Pichette was appointed to the Committee in December 2012. There are currently 2 vacancies on the Board and we encourage residents to step forward as this is a great place to learn about town government.

The budget process began in late winter with each of the town departments completing their budget requests for the 2013 fiscal year. Preliminary request were about $160,000 more than the estimated revenues would allow. Finance Committee made cuts where they were feasible and recommended $88,000 in free cash to balance the budget. This left $75000 in free cash as a base for the 2012 free cash certification. There were three capital requests placed on the June 2012 election ballot, with FinCom recommending purchase of a foam system for the Fire Department and a compactor for the Transfer Station. The Committee did not recommend the purchase of the Fire Department utility truck. Only the compactor was approved by the voters. The proposed budget of $4,584,014 was approved by Annual Town Meeting with little change. The Finance Committee appreciates the cooperation of all the town departments in working with tight budgets again this year.

In September, Free Cash was certified at $ 415, 240, which is the highest ever. This was the result of higher than anticipated receipts, including motor vehicle excise, FEMA funds, collection of back taxes, no snow removal deficit, and money turned back by departments. The Finance Committee recommended transferring $85,000 from free cash to fund the annex barrier removal project. This was approved at a Special Town Meeting in December.

During Fiscal Year 2012, the Finance Committee approved the following transfers from the Reserve Fund:

$3000 to Annex Project
$2000 to Public Safety Building
$2354 to the Library
$1500 to the Council on Aging

Finance Committee also recommended transferring $8000 from FEMA funds at a Special Town Meeting in June for renovations to the Police Department office.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellice Gonzalez, Chair

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

In 2012, the Board of Assessors recorded 71 property transfers. Also, the Board approved a total of 20 personal exemptions for disabled veterans, elderly, blind persons or surviving spouses, 4 real estate abatements, 3 personal property abatements and 58 Motor Vehicle Excise abatements.

Fiscal year 2013 was a recertification year for the Town of Westhampton. The State of Massachusetts, Department of Revenue, Division of Local Services is involved in this process, and they certified the Town's values in November 2012.

Westhampton's assessed values for Fiscal Year 2013 are

Real Estate - $209,867,327
Personal Property - $5,076,098
Exempt - $26,887,500

This represents a decrease of value in all categories.

The tax rate was set in November 2012 for fiscal year 2013 at $17.15 per $1000 of value.

Assessor business can be transacted Monday & Wednesday mornings from 9-12 and the Board of Assessors meets Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Annex.

We can be reached at 413-203-3082 or westhamptonassessors @comcast.net.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Morrey, Chair
Dolores Thornhill
Sarah Challet

REPORT OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

In 2012 the Z.B.A. was made up of Leo Aloisi, chairperson; Richard W. Tracy, clerk; Suzanne Wolf; Wayne Parks; and John Kelsey.

As mentioned in previous reports, there is room for three associate members on this board, and these are very important positions that need to be filled. If you believe it is important to have sound and just decisions made in your town, then you should ask the Selectboard to appoint you to one of these positions.

The board meets on the second Tuesday of every month in the Annex at 7:00pm. We held one special meeting on January 26th to review a legal opinion from our Town Counsel. There were five public hearings held throughout the year.

1. April 10, 2012, a public hearing for Application #190 seeking a special permit at #29 Pine Island Lake. Permit granted

2. May 10, 2012, a public hearing for Application # 191 to appeal a decision of the Planning Board concerning #8 Edwards Road. Decision: to merge two lots into one and uphold the appeal.

3. August 14, 2012, a public hearing for Application # 192 to appeal a decision of the Zoning Enforcement Officer concerning lot15-5 between #310 and #324 Northwest Road. Appeal denied. Decision further appealed, along with second decision of ZEO, to a public hearing on December 18, 2012. Appeal denied.

4. October 16, 2012, a public hearing for Application # 193 seeking a variance for property adjacent to #149 Easthampton Road. Variance granted.

5. December 18, 2012, a public hearing for application # 194 seeking a variance and special permit at # 35 Pine Island Lake. Public hearing continued into year 2013, no decision yet.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard W. Tracy, Clerk

REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

Due to the slow economy and real estate market, the Planning Board reviewed and approved just a few building lots and building permit applications this past year. The Planning Board is in the process of reviewing the current Bylaws to see where greater clarification and changes may be needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark T. Schwallie, Chair

REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

The winter of 2011-2012 was for the most part uneventful. After the big snow storm at the end of October, very little snow fell after the New Year, making for a dry spring which is always good for the roads. There were very few pot holes on the hard surfaced roads and little mud on the gravel roads. A total of $74,709.24 was spent on snow removal. The Selectboard has adopted a Snow and Ice Policy for the Highway Department. It can be seen on the Town website (www.westhampton-ma.com). Click on agendas.

Trees, Brush, Road Side Mowing

WMECO assisted us by taking down 16 hazardous trees near their power lines this year. The mild winter allowed us to cut lots of brush and over hanging limbs at various locations throughout town. We continue to burn when conditions allow, as it is the most efficient way to dispose of it. When conditions are too dry, we chip the brush. At times we have excess wood chips available. If anyone is interested in some, call the Department. Also, throughout the summer, all road sides were mowed using two over the rail mowers, ours and the second one provided by WMECO.

Sweeping –Catch Basin Cleaning

In spring, all paved roads and parking lots were swept, and during the summer, all catch basins were checked and cleaned as needed.

Beavers

Beavers returned to the Northwest Road site in the summer after two years of inactivity. Because of the pond leveling devices we have installed there, we are able to allow them to remain at that site. However, again this year, beavers were trapped and removed from both the Lyman Road and Rt. 66 sites. Due to the terrain at these locations, beaver deceiver devices can not be installed.

Chapter 90 Projects

Crack Sealing: In May, crack sealing was done on various sections of the following roads: Chesterfield, Southampton, Easthampton, Hathaway and Kings Highway.

Paving: Perry Hill Road was shimmed and overlaid with hot mix asphalt.

Oil & Stone: A total of 3.44 miles of the following roads were oil and stoned: Montague, Easthampton and Northwest.
Drainage: Drainage improvements were made on Burt Road and a new 3' diameter culvert was installed on Cemetery Road.

Other Projects

Improvements started the previous year at the intersection of Edwards and Laurel Hill were completed. New 48" solar powered blinker stop signs were installed at the intersection of North Road, Kings Highway and Easthampton Road. Some time was spent at the Transfer Station working to prepare the area for the new compactor. A culvert was replaced at 242 Kings Highway. At 99 North Road, the high embankment was dug back to make room for snow and to improve the sight distance around the corner. Guard rail posts were painted in Loudville and elsewhere, as well as light posts and the school flashing lights. New catch basins were installed at the intersection of Stage and Easthampton Road and 60 Reservoir Road. One repair was made at 79 Montague Road.

In preparation for oil and stoning on the roads mentioned, the shoulders were cleaned and the worst wheel ruts were shimmed with hot mix using our shim box. The Department continues to help out where we can, assisting other departments with things like cutting brush at the cemetery, installing bollards at the Safety Complex, moving chairs and other equipment at the Elementary School, as well as doing all the maintenance and oil changes on the Fire Department vehicles.

Projects Pending

Northwest Road culvert: The 60" diameter 200' long metal culvert under Northwest Road is showing signs of deteriorating. Because it is

buried so deep, it would be a huge undertaking to dig it up and replace it. At this time we are exploring rehabbing it with one of the many relining techniques now available.

Finally after years of planning and lobbying, we have three state funded projects that have funding in place and are ready to go, two in 2013 and one in 2014. These three projects bring over three million dollars in state and federal transportation monies to Westhampton.

Rte. 66: Rte. 66 will be milled and overlaid with hot mix starting in spring 2013. Palmer Paving was awarded the $1,060,000 project.

Loud's Bridge: In the spring of 2012, we were awarded $845,120 through the Mass DOT's (Department of Transportation) Small Bottlenecks Grant Program to replace the bridge at 11 South Road. This bridge was included as part of the original South Road reconstruction project, but Mass. DOT ended that contract without replacing the bridge. We hope to have a contract in place and start work in July 2013.

North Road Bridge: Mass DOT is proposing to replace the bridge at 279 North Road through the Foot Print Bridge Replacement Program at an estimated construction cost of $1.5 million. At this time the construction schedule is: advertise fall 2013, start construction Spring 2014 (bridge closes), construction complete and bridge reopens Fall 2014.

Equipment

Our equipment is holding up and continues to serve us well. However, over the next few years, we have three major pieces that will need to be replaced. Each year I revise my equipment replacement schedule because things seem to be lasting longer than the normal industry standard. I believe this is in part due to our new garage that lets us store all of our equipment inside, out of the weather, and also the fact that we have a strong maintenance program. I will work closely with the Capital Planning Committee and the Finance Committee to find the best way, and time to replace this equipment.

Once again I thank Bill, Jerry and Scott for all they do.

Respectfully submitted,

David Blakesley
Highway Superintendent

REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Police Department is to provide professional, community oriented services to the residents of Westhampton. Over the past year, our officers proactively worked to keep the homes and streets of the Town safe and secure. The department continues to work with the fire and highway departments to accomplish the overall task of providing public safety services to members of this community.

The Department was able to purchase mobile computers for the patrol cars this year. This vital tool allows officers to have up to date information regarding events as well as critical, safety information regarding criminal activity and persons encountered on the town. We will continue to improve our services through improved technology and training as funding allows.

The following is a synopsis of calls for service in 2012:

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Emergency/paged out calls	232	330	289	282	361	271
To include:						
- Arrests/summons	10	10	13	7	9	6
- Disturbances	11	3	3	6	10	6
- Breaking Entry	5	3	4	2	6	4
- Larcenies	6	6	6	7	6	6
- Domestic Calls	6	6	4	4	5	7
-Assault	2	1	3	3	5	2
- alarms/911 hang up/ misdials	63	121	85	49	94	85
-Suspicious Persons/ Vehicles	18	19	15	12	16	13
- Medical/Fire Assists	18	8	16	14	18	23
- Accidents	19	41	28	14	26	29
- Officer assistance	26	64	50	64	106	83
- Vandalism	21	6	7	11	6	12
Non emergency messages at the station -Approx.. 447					600	578

As always, the department is open to constructive suggestions to improve service. Any input can be emailed or called into the office at 527-6154. The non-emergency line is checked at least twice per day.

Please leave a message and your call will be returned. If you have an emergency, please call 911. This urgent call will go to the State Police Barracks in Northampton and a Westhampton officer will be paged out. In the event a town officer is not available, the Massachusetts State Police will respond to assist.

Firearms applications are accepted on the second Wednesday of each month. Pictures are no longer required to apply. The application may be downloaded off our website at WesthamptonPolice@Yahoo.com. This website also offers a variety of links and forms that may be useful.

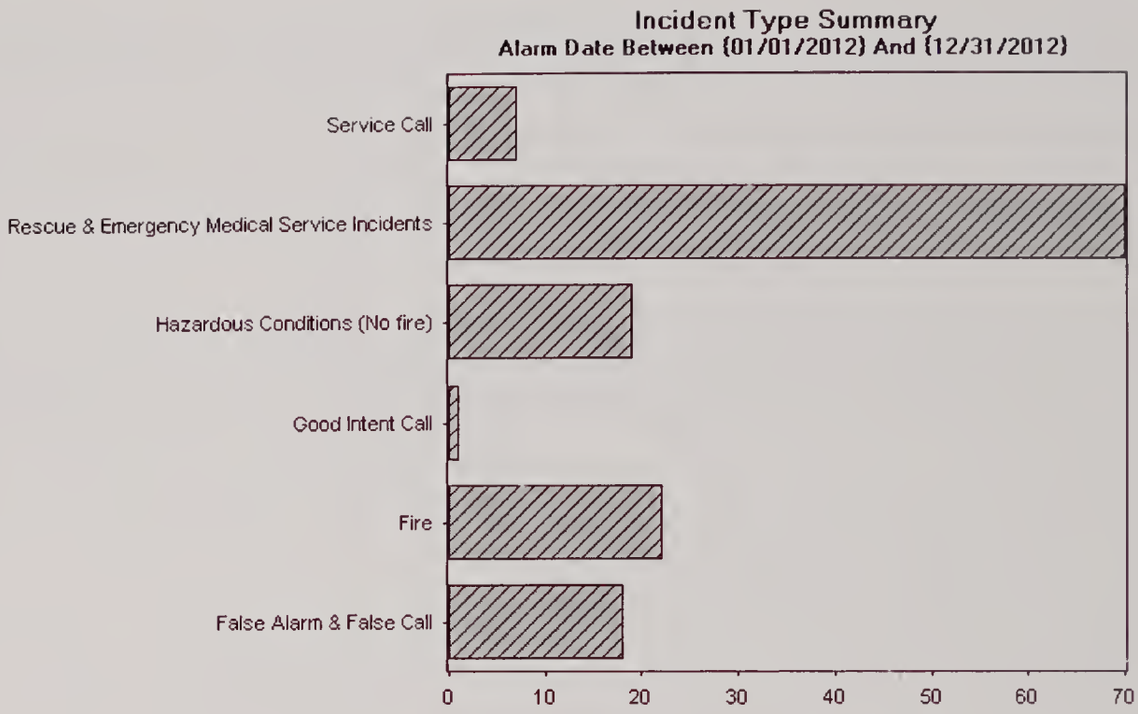
Thank you for your continued support.

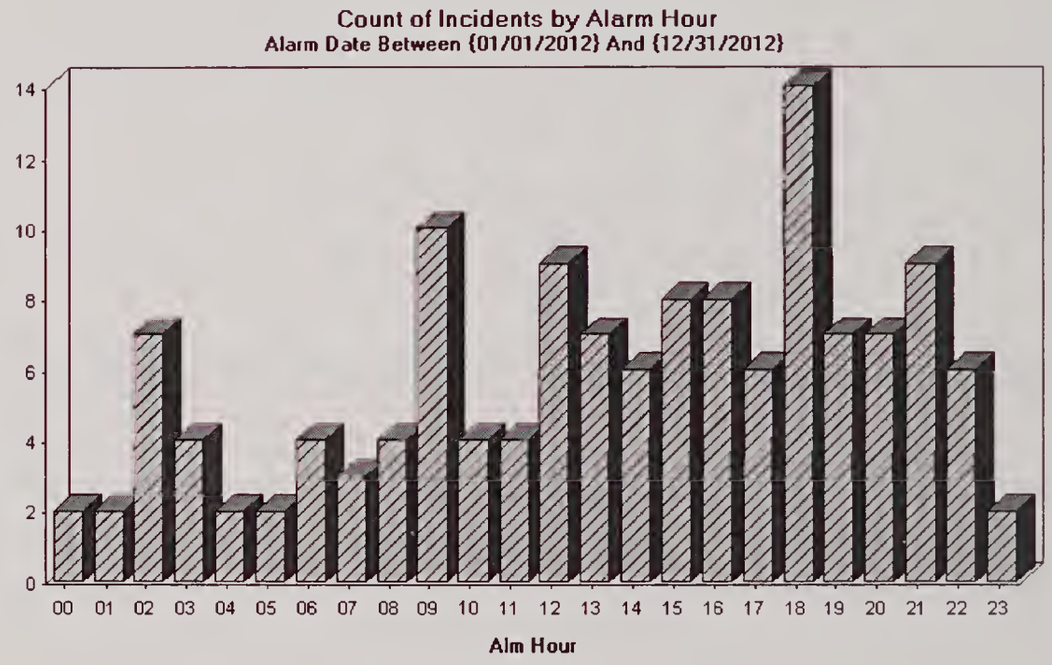
Respectfully,

David White #671, Chief

REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Westhampton Fire Department had another busy year in 2012 providing emergency services to the community. The Department responded to one-hundred and thirty-nine calls for service this year. These calls for service were for fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials response, motor vehicle accidents, utility wires down, residential fire alarm activations, and many more. The following graphs give a visual depiction of these emergency responses over the last year and the time of day personnel are being called to respond to these emergencies.





The Department's fleet of apparatus consists of a 2004 Engine, a 1986 Engine, a 1990 garbage truck cab and chassis with a milk truck body converted into a Water Tanker, a 2002 Brush Truck, a 2009 Rescue Truck, and a 2009 Mobile Air trailer with a light tower and generator. All vehicles are checked by Department personnel on a weekly basis to ensure a state of operational readiness and reliability. In addition, the Town's Highway Department has been a tremendous asset to the Fire Department, completing all routine maintenance, fluid changes, and upkeep of the vehicles. The vehicle maintenance program, as established, helps to prolong the expected life-span of the vehicles and improve the safety during emergency responses. Again this year, we had both Engines professionally pump-tested to ensure adequate pump performance as determined by the manufactures. These testing procedures are also reflected in the Department's Insurance Services

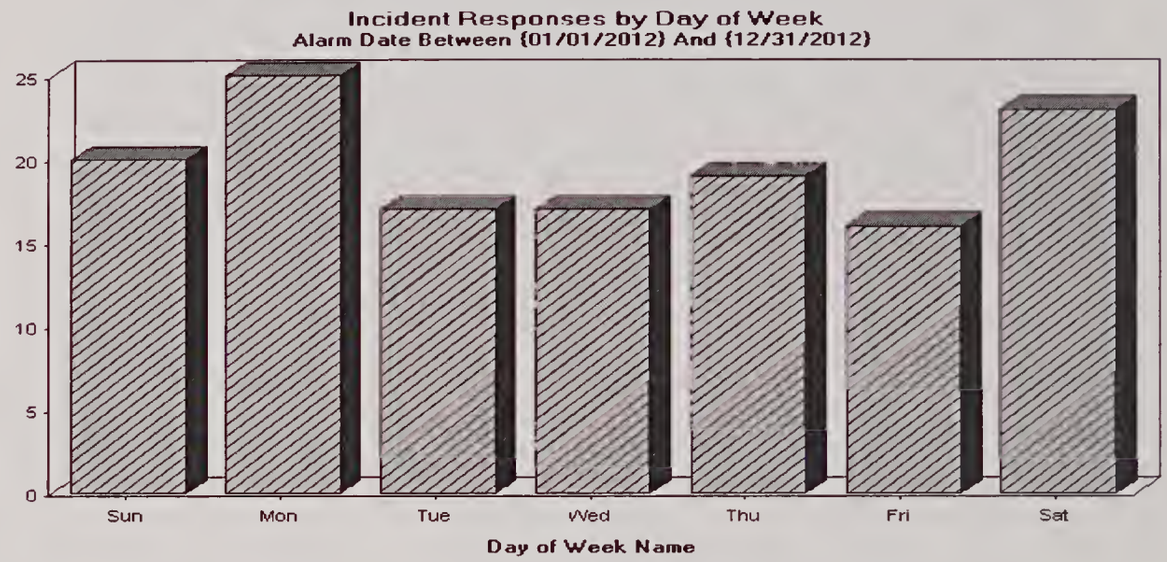
Organization (ISO) rating and meet the requirements set by National Standards pertaining to Fire Apparatus.

Department Retro-fitted Tanker Vehicle

The Department also had all of the fire hose pressure tested to ensure adequate operational effectiveness. National Standards recommend that this is done once a year, and in addition, it is reflected in the ISO ratings that this testing procedure be done to minimize the insurance rates in Town. More important, to ensure the safety of all members utilizing fire hose during operational procedures, it is our responsibility that they are provided with equipment that is safe and functioning to the highest standards. The testing revealed that the Department did have fire hose in service that did not pass the required pressure rating. These were removed from service and replaced with some of the spare hose that was also tested and passed the requirements. These testing requirements demonstrated that this was a project that was needed and should be continued each year to help ensure that the integrity and operational capacity of the equipment is maintained. We also had all of our ground ladders tested to the National Standards, ensuring they could meet the performance requirements during emergency operations. All of these projects are critical to properly maintaining all of the equipment and ensuring the highest degree of safety for our personnel utilizing these resources.

One of the greatest challenges faced by volunteer departments across the country is the recruitment and retention of Department members. Greater demands on training, increasing call volumes and the balance of a full time job and family all require a delicate balance that can minimize the number of people interested in becoming a member. The Town of Westhampton has been very fortunate over the years, given

the difficulties seen by other departments, to maintain this type of department and the high level of performance and services provided by these individuals. The Department currently has thirty-five volunteer members and is always seeking new members to help serve the community. These volunteers are vital to keeping the overall cost for services down while at the same time performing a critical service needed in the community. As seen in the graph below, these volunteers are called out on all different days of the week throughout the year.



Members of the Department are continuing to work with the Elementary School and their staff to deliver public education and fire safety lessons to the Students. This education is done in the form of classroom presentations and demonstrations as well as public education programs at Town events such as the Fall Festival. Our Department continues to be a member of the Hampshire County Fire Defense Association providing us access to a regional public education trailer to assist in the delivery of the fire safety lessons. In addition, our Department again received a grant in the amount of $3,785 to assist with the purchase of educational materials and supplies for these programs. This continues to be an extremely valuable program and we look forward to our continued collaboration with the school Administration for this purpose.

Per capita, based on the 2011 census published in last year's Town Report, Westhampton residents pay approximately $10.85 for fire protection each year. This would not be remotely possible if it wasn't for all of the dedicated volunteers in the Department. In continuing to build out our department, we were proud to welcome Melissa Start, Matt Campbell, Robert Dragon, and Andy Hilnbrand to the Department as new members. In addition, Stephanie Dalton and Danielle Dennett joined the Department as Emergency Medical Technicians. The Department is always looking for new volunteers and anyone who is ever interested is encouraged to call the Department and speak with the Chief.

Two members chose to step down from the Department this year after years of dedication and service to the community. Those members were Captain/EMT Mike Derouin and Firefighter Don Long. Both members provided exceptional leadership and dedication to the Department and community for a long time and they will both be extremely missed in our organization. We thank them both immensely for everything they have done.

This year the Department finally has established a website. This has been a long and arduous process but will ultimately lead to better customer service for the community. We have transitioned all of our burning permits and inspections to this online forum to make it more convenient for anyone to request or schedule these and get immediate feedback. For a Department that is an all volunteer, we have already seen a dramatic improvement in communication both externally and internally with our members. We hope to continually make improvements such as this in the future to better service all the residents as efficiently as possible. To access this website, please visit www.westhamptonfire.org and you can also visit us on our Facebook page under the Westhampton Fire Department.

There are a number of capital projects that the Fire Department is going to need input and support on from the community in the immediate future. The largest of these is a need for a new Public Safety Complex to meet the growing demands of the community. The current facility is reaching sixty years old and no longer is able to accommodate the demands placed on the public safety services (Police, Fire, EMS, and Emergency Management). In addition, one of the Engines is twenty-six years old and has reached its life expectancy. However, no new Engine available will fit in the current facility given the current size

and parameters. All of these items have been forwarded to the Town Capital Improvements Committee with emphasis placed on a new building. We will continue to explore all available funding options to minimize the financial impact on the community, but the conversation needs to continue in order to plan and prepare for vehicles and equipment for the next ten to twenty-five years and a facility that will continue to meet the service demands for the next fifty plus years.

Finally, I'd like to thank all of the personnel at the Department for their continued support and dedication to the Town and the Department. It continues to be an absolute pleasure and honor to work for all of them and be part of an organization that cares so much about their community. The members of the Westhampton Fire Department continue to do much more than respond to emergencies. Throughout the years, they continue to clean residents chimneys each Fall, hang the flags on the utility poles in the center of town when needed, get involved in community sponsored events such as the Halloween parade, fill residents swimming pools and the water tanks at the Town Cemetery, install smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors, and put up house numbers for residences to help emergency responders find the proper location and decrease response times. The Westhampton Fire Department is one of the few healthy and vigorous volunteer departments left in the region, and all of the members are very dedicated and proud to serve the residents and community. Thank you and have a safe and healthy year.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher W. Norris
Fire Chief/Emergency Manager

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health conducts meetings the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall Annex. This year we welcome new Board member Stephanie Dalton. The Board of Health is currently without a health agent.

The Board of Health continues to be responsible for the enforcement of the State Sanitary Code: including inspections of food establishments, school kitchens, campgrounds, housing complaints, nuisance

complaints, drinking water protection, septic systems, solid waste and disease surveillance.

The Board wishes to thank Ted Brooks for his help ensuring our residents' septic systems are properly installed.

The Board continues to oversee operations at our transfer station, with the help of our attendant Don Fox, the DPW and the Hilltown Resource Management Coalition led by Eric Weiss. This year we have invested in an additional trash compactor and moved to single stream recycling of our glass, plastic and paper. It certain that the new set up will save us thousands of dollars each year in recycling transportation costs.

We continue to be involved with our state mandated emergency planning partners the Hampshire Emergency Preparedness Coalition. This group continues to show great signs of stress and uncertainty as member towns cannot agree on a clear direction and purpose aside from distribution of Federal Grants through the CDC.

Submitted Respectfully,

Dan Wasiuk, Chair
Stephanie Dalton
Tom Martin

REPORT OF THE HILLTOWN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COOPERATIVE

The Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative (HRMC) was created 24 years ago and includes the Towns of Ashfield, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton Williamsburg and Worthington. The HRMC was created by a group of dedicated volunteers from each member Town who had the vision to seek a regional solution to help small towns with volunteer local boards that had a desire to protect the environment, become more sustainable and manage the expensive problem of rapidly rising solid waste disposal costs.

In the past 24 years the HRMC has created cost saving recycling and sustainability programs. The past year has also been one in which the HRMC and the Hampshire Council of Governments continued their partnership by working closely together on sustainability and green energy development issues. In fact the HRMC Administrator splits his time, spending ½ of each week being Administrator of the HRMC and ½ of each week being the Sustainability Director for the Hampshire Council of Governments.

WHAT PROGRAMS DOES THE HRMC HELP WITH?

The HRMC contracted Administrator, Eric Weiss, helps your Town manage disposal recycling and sustainability programs, including;

- Solid Waste Disposal and Hauling Contracting
- MRF Household Recycling and Hauling and Contracting
- Electronics, Paint, Propane Tank, Tire, and Clothes Recycling Programs
- Organize and Manage the Annual Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection
- Provide Sustainability and Recycling Outreach and Education efforts
- Assisting local Boards with DEP Compliance Related Issues
- Assisting with monitoring transfer station efforts costs and activities
- Advocating on behalf of the Towns with State Legislators
- Explore new green energy and sustainability programs and grants
- Assist member Towns in becoming Massachusetts designated "Green Communities"
- Coordinate sustainability activities and green energy program development in cooperation with the Hampshire Council of Governments
- Explore zero waste issues on behalf of member Towns

WHO MANAGES THE HRMC?

- Two residents (appointed by your Towns Board of Selectmen) from each of the ten member Towns serve on the HRMC Board which is responsible for the management and oversight of the HRMC.
- The current Chairman of the HRMC is Joe Kearns from Middlefield, the current Vice-Chairman of the HRMC is Donna Gibson from Williamsburg and the current Treasurer of the HRMC is Tom Martin from Westhampton.
- The HRMC has an annual assessment which is approved by each Town at their annual Town meeting. The annual assessment is based on population and the amount of tonnage handled at your Towns transfer station. The Total (for the Ten Towns combined) annual assessments are currently $39,487.56. After two years of budget reductions the HRMC has level funded its assessment budget for two the past two fiscal years in a row.
- The HRMC also receives grant and recycling revenues to supplement its budget and many efforts on behalf of its member Communities. The HRMC continues to be a very successful effort for the Hilltown region. It has become a program which local boards of Selectmen and Health and Energy Committees have grown to depend on for sound technical assistance and guidance on recycling and sustainability issues.
- The HRMC works closely with local officials in every one of its member Towns by providing information and important technical assistance to the Towns.
- We also help your Towns obtain access to the resources needed for the management of successful solid waste, recycling, sustainability and green energy (solar) programs.

Last year the HRMC helped the 10 member Towns:
Recycle 1083 tons of material
Save $73,644 in disposal costs
Save 6001 tons of greenhouse gas emissions
Earn over $49,472 in recycling revenue.

We look forward to continuing to assist your Town during this upcoming year. If you have any questions about recycling or have a waste disposal problem, please call us at (413) 268 – 3845 or (413) 687 – 3356 or email us at hrmc@crocker.com right away.

Eric Weiss
Administrator, HRMC
Sustainability Director, HCOG

REPORT OF THE ANIMAL INSPECTOR

The annual farm animal census was completed in early January 2013 with the following results.

Dairy Cattle	222
Beef Cattle	48
Steers	4
Goats	56
Sheep	21
Swine	1
Llama/Alpaca	4
Horse/pony	109
Donkeys	5
Chickens	427
Turkeys	14
Water Fowl	12
Guineas/peafowl	14
Rabbits	3

All the animals were healthy and well cared for.

Also, I issued one 10 day, one 45 day and one 6 month quarantine all with negative results. There were 3 incidents that I received notice of after the needed quarantine time had already expired. Fortunately, the animals in question remained healthy. Also, I dealt with an incident of a cat biting its owner that caused some concern that resolved satisfactorily. Several of these incidents involved animals that were not current on their rabies vaccination. Rabies is an ongoing concern and all pet owners are reminded that all dogs and cats are required by state law to be vaccinated for rabies.

Also, 2012 brought heightened concern for West Nile virus and Equine encephalitis state wide with some cases occurring in western Mass. Horse owners are encouraged to vaccinate their animals for these diseases that can also affect humans.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard I. Tracy
Animal Health Inspector

REPORT OF THE VETERANS' AGENT

The year 2012 veterans are still feeling the crunch of the economy and have many questions concerning Health Care, Education, jobs and guidance; who do I turn to or where do I go? Veterans and Veterans' family members can get quick answers and guidance from a website, MassVetsAdvisor.org. By logging onto this web site you will find avenues to State and Federal areas of need. If you are not computer savvy, then call your Veterans' Service Officer and we become the front-line in your effort to get info and answers. Massachusetts General Laws Ch. 115, 108 provides many avenues for benefits for the veterans and their families.

Please contact the Veterans' Office at 413-427-3054 to set up an appointment.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Henning
Veterans' Services Officer

REPORT OF THE CEMETERY CARETAKER

The year 2012 was a slow one at the cemetery due to dry weather during the summer and relatively few burials that took place. During the month of April, I spent a few days along with help from Josh Hickey and the Highway Department cutting back overgrown brush and tree limbs along the southern property line and part of the eastern

property line. The highway department brought over their brush chipper and all brush we cut was chipped on site.

While we were cutting brush we discovered that the southwest corner boundary marker was missing. There was no consensus between the cemetery directors and abutting property owners on where the boundary was supposed to be, so the cemetery directors hired Holmberg land surveyors of Easthampton to survey the southern property line, and they installed a new concrete boundary marker in the southwest corner.

The excavation plans for the northern expansion of the cemetery were reviewed by the cemetery directors along with engineer James Gracia. Together they determined where a new road should be located to access the new section. At the end of 2012, they were still waiting for him to finalize the plans.

The hot and dry weather during the months of June, July, and August significantly slowed down the grass at the cemetery. Mowing time was reduced to twice per month during the summer. In addition burials were down in 2012. Altogether there were:

3 traditional burials
2 burials of cremations
4 new burial lots acquired
2 new monument foundations installed

All the cemetery equipment remains in good working order. The Husqvarna lawn and garden tractor with a 42" mower deck gets the job done, but is a little light-weight and small for the cemetery. Mowing would be more efficient with a more rugged commercial lawn mower with a slightly wider mowing deck. The cemetery garage also needs to be painted in the near future. I would like to thank Don Fox and the Fire Department for continuing to keep the water tanks filled at the cemetery.

Respectfully submitted,

Karl Norris, Cemetery Caretaker

REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Members: Tom Jenkins, (chair), Steve Holt, Brad Morse, Fred Morrison, Bob LaPalme, (secretary)

Under The Wetlands Protection Act, eight "interests" are protected by town conservation commissions across the state. Those commissions process thousands of applications every year for permits to do work in and near wetlands, floodplains, banks, riverfront areas, beaches and surface waters, (source: Mass. Assn. of Conservation Commissions).

The eight important public values subject to protection referred to as "interests" are 1. Protection of public and private water supply 2. protection of groundwater supply 3. flood control 4. storm damage prevention 5.prevention of pollution 6. protection of land containing shellfish 7. protection of fisheries 8. protection of wildlife habitat.

What follows is a brief summary of WCC activities for year 2012:

Site visit	8
Determination (informal, no further action)	6
Public hearing	2
Request for Determination (RDA)	3
RDA retracted	1
Notice of Intent	1
Order of conditions	1
Violation concern	2
Enforcement order	0
Emergency septic repair	1
Town Conservation Restricted Properties Annually monitored by Con Com:	2
Town Library conservation restricted area	
Kestrel Land Trust conservation restricted area	

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Jenkins, Commission Chair
Bob LaPalme, Secretary

REPORT OF THE OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

The members of the committee this year were Rick Tracy chair, Ellen Bartos secretary, Kate Parsons and Dave Majercik. Tadd Weiss joined us in August.

The final pieces to complete our draft Open Space Plan update were reviewed by May and we submitted that document to the State for approval in early June. We received a reply in September with 5 points that needed more work. As of the end of December 2012, these issues had been dealt with and the Plan update will be submitted in early 2013.

The majority of our time in 2012 was spent working on preparing to present the Community Preservation Act to the townspeople so that the Town could vote on whether to accept the provisions of that act. Westhampton had voted on the CPA in 2001 and we felt it was appropriate to bring the question to the voters again. Many area towns have accepted the CPA and the range of projects undertaken with the CPA funds is impressive.

We had assistance in this endeavor from Sheila Marks, Kate O' Conner, Barbara Pelissier, and Laurie Sanders. Barbara Pelissier accepted leadership of the CPA effort and I thank her for that. We decided the best route to take was to have a petition drive and get the question on the ballot for the November election. The petition drive was successful and the question appeared on the fall ballot. We conducted 2 informational meetings in September and October. Our thanks to Laurie Saunders for preparing and making the presentation for these meetings. Unfortunately, the question was defeated at the election by a vote of 464 to 540. (46% - 54 %). I want to thank everyone who helped with this endeavor. It is likely that this question will come up again in the future.

Looking ahead, we hope to have a final accepted updated Open Space Plan and begin to act on the action plan laid out in that document.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard I. Tracy, Chair

REPORT OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR

There were 92 building permits completed in 2012 with $14,201 collected in fees for projects valued at $2,121,597.00.
Values are rounded.

Permit Classification	Project Value	No.
Additions	374,900	5
Annual Inspections	0	2
Barns/Sheds/Garages	218,191	6
Cabin Demo	2,000	1
Decks/Porches	33,400	4
Earth Removal	0	0
Cell Tower Upgrades	90,000	5
Insulation/Weatherization	8,567	4
Masonry Heater/Chimneys	4,800	2
Pellet/Wood Stoves	32,150	15
Pools	22,500	3
Renovations	223,750	8
Repairs/Foundations	65,090	6
Reroof	77,217	10
Solar	198,137	5
Siding	67,247	5
Single Family Residence	649,096	2
Misc	6,391	4
Windows/Doors	48,161	5

Note: Building or zoning permits are required for nearly every project.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Miller
Building Inspector

REPORT OF THE SANITATION INSPECTOR

In 2012, there were 11 septic systems worked on. Eight were upgraded, and 3 new systems were installed. Any questions, please give me a call.

Respectfully submitted,

Stillman G. Brooks
Sanitation Inspector
527-4841

REPORT OF THE PLUMBING INSPECTOR

During the year 2012, the Plumbing Inspector's office received forty one permit applications. Fourteen were for plumbing work and twenty seven were for gas inspections. There were four new home and eight remodeling permits.

A total of $1,675 was collected for permits and fees.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Pichette

REPORT OF THE S.A.L.T. TRIAD

TRIAD - In 1988, three national groups: AARP, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and the National Sheriffs Association agreed that the crime prevention needs of older citizens could be best met by their cooperative efforts. By signing an agreement, a TRIAD was formed. The National Association of Triads today requires the need for participation and leadership of three entities - law enforcement, older adult volunteers, and community service groups. In 1992, the Hampshire County TRIAD was begun by Sheriff R. Garvey.

S.A.L.T. - Seniors And Law enforcement Together

Our County Sheriffs office, Northwestern District Attorney, and Police Chief, Dave White, work with our volunteer group. We strive to

educate, empower, improve communication, and provide information to older adults by focusing on safety and wellness. The first Westhampton SALT group was formed in 1994.

FREE PUBLICATIONS by Westhampton SA.L.T.

"Westhampton: Preparing for Emergencies & Disasters" -A Manual: survival kits, power outage, fire safety, storms, shelter; **"Special Wishes"** - 10 section guide: organize personal affairs; **"Where to Get Help"** - at-home help, transportation, ID theft, fraud, abuse; **"Do Not Call"**, legal services, home safety repairs; **File of Life** - Your critical medical info card to keep visible at home/ in your car to assist all responding emergency personnel.

2012 PROJECTS COMPLETED

National Prescription Take-Back Day: assisted our Police in yearly events to obtain unused drugs to prevent abuse/ pollution; **Survey Adults** 60+: printed results & compiled needs assessment; **Survey Results:** established goals from needs assessment: A "Buddy System" and Emergency Preparedness information.

PRESENT PROJECTS

Survey Adults 60+: compiling results/a 45% return -Thank you! **Survey for Adults 55 to 60**: mailing will be sent in 2012; **"Preparing for Disasters"**: Seeking funds to print more; **Manuals Town Disaster/Emergency Planning:** Working with Town officials; **4th. National Prescription Take-Back Day**: April 28, 2012; **Driver Safety Tune-Up**: Sponsor, County Sheriff- May, 2012.

Promoting safety/well being/communication

We welcome your participation in reaching our Community goals. Monthly meetings: 2nd Friday at 10am, Westhampton Woods (F). Members: Connie Dragon. Tony Caggiano, Don Graham, Chuck Horn, David Majercik, Gerry & Charlie Ognibene, Ginny Curtis.
whsaltcouncil@comcast.net 413-529-9873 Fax: 413-203-3049

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Curtis, Chairman

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

The Westhampton Council on Aging has completed another busy year. The Board has accepted two resignations during this year. Charlie Ognibene and Gale Wright, both long time members of the Board, have been great contributors to the Board and to the COA. Many thanks to both of them for their years of service. Lillian Baxter and Bill Magrone have been appointed to the board.

Current board members are:
Jean Webster & Wendy Blow..... Term ending June 2013
Bill Magrone, Ann Tracy and Liz Anderson..... Term ending June 2014
Louise Jasionkowski & Lillian Baxter..... Term ending June 2015

The focus of the Westhampton Council on Aging is to enhance the quality of life for all Westhampton residents who are age 60 and over and to provide them a variety of services and activities. This year those services included a quarterly newsletter; the H-E-N Program (Helping Elders in Need); the FRTA Transportation Program which provides transportation for seniors; monthly luncheons with informational and entertaining programs following; blood pressure checks; flu clinics; notary public services; help navigating through Medicare and other insurance programs; bus trips to area points of interest; exercise classes three days a week; computer support; birthday and get well greetings; as well as individual support and check-ins when needed.

This year the Board has begun an ambitious project which will help us learn more about our senior population. We are developing a program which will allow us to visit or otherwise gain information from all of our elders - especially to determine their needs and interests. As part of this project, the Board is developing a brochure, a survey and a packet of informational materials to share during our visits.

Another project that was started this year was collaboration with our local EMS team to assure that all members have a File of Life available in cases of emergencies. We provided a morning coffee during which our local EMTs were available to help fill out these forms electronically. This is a service we hope to offer yearly, with the hope

that soon we will have forms hanging on the refrigerators of all Westhampton seniors!

The COA is grateful to the Town for the funds that are voted to support the group. In addition, the COA receives grant funding from the Massachusetts Office of Elder Affairs and a federal grant administered through the Highland Valley Elder Services.

This year we saw the beginning of an active *Friends of the Westhampton COA* organization. This group gives those who would like to be a part of the Westhampton COA, but who live out of town, an opportunity to be a part of the organization. Likewise, those townspeople who would like to support the organization can become members of the Friends Group, regardless of age. The Friends have organized under the chairmanship of Connie Dragon, and the support of the other members of the Friends' board - Jean Alward, Liz Anderson, Sue Beaumier, Betty-Anne Gould, and Charlotte Wood who is the Treasurer. This group has worked diligently this year to get this group active, registering seventy-seven friends. In addition to their work on membership, they have planned two very successful trips - one, a boat ride on the Connecticut River, and another, a trip to the New England Air Museum.

The 420 seniors living in Westhampton are fortunate to live in a community where many are willing to donate a great deal of time to the organization. Thanks to all those volunteers who give of their time and expertise: the board members; the Salt Triad Program; the volunteers who coordinate both the HEN Program and the FRTA transportation program; the many volunteer drivers; the luncheon planning committee; those who work on the Friends of the COA organization; those who send out the many cards; those who provide cupcakes for birthdays at each luncheon; those who are faithful photographers; and the many who help with our fundraising pie sale. In addition to all of these, there are many members who lend a helping hand in ways too numerous to count - thanks to all of you!

In addition to our local program, members of the COA Board take part in the Hilltown Councils on Aging Consortium, the Highland Valley Elder Services Board of Directors and the Westhampton Woods Board of Directors. In addition, Board members attend training sessions offered by the Office of Elder Affairs.

In closing, the COA would like to recognize the many years that Olga Hathaway served as the Hilltown Elder Network (HEN Program) coordinator - we certainly miss her. We are fortunate that Lillian Baxter has agreed to take on the role as coordinator. This program provides eligible elders with in-home services, such as home chore or transportation services, which help insure safe and independent living conditions.

We encourage those seniors living in Westhampton to attend the monthly luncheons, held on the first Thursday of each month (except August!). Home cooked food, socialization, and a variety of interesting programs are available. This year the programs ran the gamut from our Intergenerational Program with the Fourth Graders, to informational programs about services available, music and many more!

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Miller, Coordinator

REPORT OF THE CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Westhampton Cultural Council was allotted $3870 (the same as last year) by the State Council to fund grant applications in FY13. $100 in funds went unclaimed from last year (Heart Festival did not take place) and $100 was allotted this year for expenses, so we were able to grant $3864. We received 23 grants (same as last year) in total and approved 12 (same as last year.)

The following applications were approved for FY12:

1.	Gregory Maichack Georgia O'Keefe Pastels How-To	$435.00
2.	John Root Edible Wild Plants Walk	$300.00
3.	Westhampton Elementary School UMASS Fine Arts Center Field Trip	$554.00
4.	Friends of Williamsburg Libraries Hilltown Winter Concert Series	$100.00

5.	Davis Bates Storytelling	$325.00
6.	Hilltown Community Devel. Corp. Hilltown Spring Festival	$100.00
7.	Friends of the Westhampton Library Field of Dreams Summer Concert Series	$600.00
8.	Valley Art Share Ratchet/Zine	$100.00
9.	Hilltown 6 Pottery Tour Signage	$100.00
10.	Ricardo Frota Ecology of Sound	$450.00
11.	Hampshire Regional High School PTSO HRHS Community Musical	$400.00
12.	Westhampton Public Library Terrific Turtles	$400.00

The Council tries to present a well-balanced distribution of projects/arts/music/theatre in order to benefit all residents of Westhampton. Please contact the Selectboard and/or Julie Held or Ann Lewis, co-chairs, if you wish to be appointed to the Council, or with any ideas for future grants and rewards.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Held, Co-Chair	Ann Lewis, Co-Chair
Robbie Heidinger	Renee Schultz
Sarah Mulvehill	Paula Murphy
Jackie Brodeur	John Zimmerman

REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

In 2012, the Historical Commission was made up of Richard W. Tracy, chairperson; Steven Brooks, Daniel Krug, Sr.; Marion Allen, and Robert Dragon, Sr. The Commission meets on the third Tuesday of each month, except December, at 7:00 pm. The President of the Historical Society, Barbara Pelissier, often meets with us, and we appreciate her help and input. The main effort of this commission is to operate and maintain the Blacksmith Shop Museum at #5 Stage Road.

However, we work with the Elementary School and other groups as well, trying to spread knowledge of our Town's history and an appreciation of the effort and accomplishments of those who have come before us and created this special place in which we live. This year we have also presented a special program at the Library concerning the Loudville lead mines.

The 2012 Annual Town Meeting voted the sum of $10,000 to be used replacing the roof on all of the main museum building. We accepted a bid price of $7000 from the Roberts Roofing Co. for this project and the work is not yet completed. The new metal roof should serve for many years to come.

In July we sponsored our second annual Chicken Barbeque and served about 200 people. Again this was done in conjunction with a Band Concert on the Library back lawn. A real nice evening out, for all who attended, and a good fund raiser for the Friends of the Museum. We are planning to do this again next July, so look for the date and plan to be there. Also in July, we entered a float in the Chesterfield 4th of July Parade.

The second big event is the annual Fall Festival on the third Sunday in October, and we are pleased to be a part of that great community program. These two events, along with having the Museum open every Sunday from Memorial Day to the third Sunday in October, keeps us pretty busy. Our support group "The Friends of the Westhampton Blacksmith Shop Museum" is growing each year and becoming a greater help as we go along.

This year we have been very fortunate to have Wayne Perrea, a former resident of Loudville, come to us and offer his expertise and knowledge of the former Loudville Lead Mines. Wayne has studied and explored this area for many years, and now has recorded all the facts and history of this unique enterprise, into a wonderful program. We have offered him space, in the middle room of the museum, to showcase all of his materials and information; and he has graciously accepted this offer. We are now excitedly planning how to best accomplish this. Be sure to come to the Museum in 2013 to see a great exhibit which will highlight this period of our towns history.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard W. Tracy, Chairman

REPORT OF THE WESTHAMPTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

It has been a very busy year at the Westhampton Public Library. We have continued to be the center of much activity in the town, providing a number of regular monthly programs and activities for adults and children, as well as providing new programs from month to month at the library.

The library is staffed by our director, Lyn Keating, who has worked at the library for 22 years. Lyn continues to have a great awareness of the workings and needs of the library, and is able to prioritize what needs to be done and oversee it. She works with the trustees as well as the Friends of the Library, and has trained a number of volunteers that regularly help us at the library. Hilary Nolan continues to be our staff librarian who creates and coordinates programs for children as well as carrying out other duties on a day to day basis.

The trustees of the library set policies and oversee the budget and finances for the library, as well as the building and its property. We are also responsible for supervising and evaluating the library director. We worked hard this past year to create policies for the new library, and will continue to revise or update them as needed. Since the Building Committee has completed its work for the library, it is now up to the trustees to see that unresolved items of work are completed, as well as take care of any items in need of repair that have passed the warranty point.

At the end of FY2012, 980 Westhampton residents held library cards. Patrons obtained materials through interlibrary loan which totaled 3,256, and the WPL provided 4,875 items to other libraries through interlibrary loan. Overall we circulated a total of 25,149 items by the end of FY2012. Patrons also come to the library to use the computers and take advantage of Wifi access. Groups within our town and from other communities use the library in which to hold meetings throughout the entire year. We encourage groups from other communities to make donations to help us offset expenses.

The Friends of the Library continue to raise funds for programs and materials, and are an active and vital group in our community. Our library hosted 229 programs last year, with 3,625 attendees overall. Without the great work and support of the Friends, this would be difficult to achieve. There are ongoing activities in the library for both

children and adults that occur on a regular basis, as well as numerous special programs and performances throughout the year, such as concerts, gallery nights, art exhibits, and presentations by various people, which helps to foster and enrich literacy and lifelong learning.

The budget that the Board of Trustees is requesting for the coming fiscal year reflects what we feel is the minimum that we will need to continue to provide the quality of services that Westhampton needs, as well as to maintain our certification by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. We take great pride in this library in this beautiful town of ours, and want to ensure that it continues to be not just a place for books and other media, but a place for lifelong learning in the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Cooper, Chair
Maureen Dempsey, Treasurer
Sarah K. Mulvehill, Secretary
Andrea Belanger
Jonathan Kahane
Carol McMurrich
Board of Trustees

REPORT OF LIBRARY FUNDS

Library funds in the custody of the Town Treasurer in the Library gift accounts at the beginning of fiscal year 2011 totaled $13,994.42.

During fiscal year 2012, gifts in the amount of $3,479 were received from the Friends of the library, the Reynolds family, Pat Lewis, in honor of Ann Tracy, and the Trustees of the Reservation. Expenditures to support the library totaled $5,949.11, leaving a balance in the gift accounts of $11524.31 at the end of the fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret A. Parsons, Town Treasurer

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent Craig Jurgensen reports that the schools in the Hampshire Regional School District have had another productive and reaffirming year while also addressing the challenges facing public schools and teachers. Collaboration and coordination between and among the District's five schools continues to strengthen. Strengthening the work we do to improve coordination, collaboration, and communication among the schools of the Hampshire Regional Public Schools that will support continually improving student performance and welfare, professional development, and instructional strategies to address the needs of all learners continues to be our mission. As a District, all of our school staff work conscientiously with commitment and purpose to uphold our responsibility to teach students to read, write, speak well, and calculate, as we also embrace our increasing responsibility to address "21st Century Learning Skills" including critical thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration paired with an integration of emerging technologies. The following report highlights some of the programs, events, and activities undertaken to promote excellence in achievement and to support our students' success as life-long learners and responsible participants in our society.

Hiring thoughtful, creative, and effective school leaders continues to be pivotal to our success and the achievement of our students. In addition to hiring outstanding new teachers in 2012, Ms. Rosemary Larkin was hired to serve as the new school principal of the Chesterfield-Goshen Regional Elementary School. Prior to becoming assuming the leadership role at New Hingham, Ms. Larkin worked extensively in microbiological research followed by teaching in Pittsfield and the Richmond Consolidated School in Richmond, MA. In October, the District hired Ms. Irene Ryan as the new Director of Pupil Services. Ms. Ryan worked in the Ludlow and Holyoke Public Schools and served on the Westhampton School Committee. She is responsible for administration of the District's special education, early childhood, and English Language Learner programs, as well as several other initiatives related to assisting the District in meeting the needs of all students.

In January, Hampshire Regional School District was awarded one of 28 Community Innovation Challenge Grants awarded by the Massachusetts Executive Office for Administration and Finance. The purpose of the Community Innovation Challenge Grant program was to invest in and incentivize innovation among local governments,

including regional schools. The Hampshire Regional CIC grant was funded to improve the efficiencies of the District's technological applications for human resources, accounting and finance, communication, and educational support in all of our schools and to increase the collaboration with the District's five towns (Williamsburg, Westhampton, Goshen, Chesterfield, and Southampton).

Additionally, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education funded the District's grant proposal entitled, "Improving Services: Cooperative Services Plan". The grant provided support for improvements improvements to school websites, standard interoperability frameworks (electronic data sharing between/among schools in the District), and other technological improvements designed to better coordinate District operations. The Community Innovation Challenge and DESE grants provided the District with over $138,000 for these two very important projects.

On September 5, the staff of the Hampshire Regional Schools attended the annual Convocation Day at Hampshire Regional High School. Convocation, brings together all of the District's talented and committed staff, at the beginning of the new school year to reinforce the connections of each of our schools to one another and, in turn, their connection to accepting the challenges, rewards, and of working together to achieve common goals. This year's speaker was Caltha Crowe author of "How to Bullyproof Your Classroom." Ms. Crowe spoke to teachers and administrators about the challenges of preventing bullying before it happens. Her engaging and informative presentation offered advice to staff on the importance of modeling appropriate behaviors, creating inclusive classrooms, and ensuring that students know that teachers care.

Using a web-based curriculum mapping tool, the District's staff continue to develop our district-wide (preK-12) curriculum aligned with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. HRHS teachers and administrators reaffirmed their commitment to ease the transition of sixth grade students by expanding and enriching their outreach and support for rising sixth grade students.

All District's staff dedicate significant time, attention and effort implementing the Commonwealth's new system of "Educator Evaluation System" that was passed by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in June 2011 but released by DESE in January 2012. The Educator Evaluation System significantly changes teacher

evaluation for all public school teachers and administrators in Massachusetts. Implementing the system has required much time, planning, and professional development. When fully implemented, the new educator evaluation framework will ensure that all children are taught by effective teachers and attend schools that have effective leaders. The system centers on, among other things, student learning and promoting the professional growth and development of teachers and administrators. (More information can be found on the DESE website (www.doe.mass.edu.)

We continue to be proud of our student performance record and the achievement of our students which individual school principals have written about in their annual reports. For parents who are interested in broader access to student performance data, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has several useful tools and informational components to their website. Interested parents should look at the DESE website (www.doe.mass.edu) and then select "School/District Profiles" for information and comparison of school and district data. Specific information about MCAS, the Student Growth Model and other assessment topics can be found under "Assessment and Accountability".

The Williamsburg School Building Committee continued to work with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) to complete a feasibility study and schematic designs of a renovation/addition project at the Anne T. Dunphy School. By December, plans were almost complete and ready to send the project out to bid hoping for construction to start in March 2013. The work of the Committee is one more example of the energy, commitment and support our students receive from the residents of our five towns.

Everyone in the District is continually vigilant and mindful of our responsibility to keep one another safe. In December, we were jolted into remembering how critically important this is. Following the tragic shootings in Connecticut, I directed building principals to review with their staff and students their emergency protocols and procedures. At individual schools and as a District, we have worked with State and local police, fire, and other emergency management personnel to tighten daily procedures (including those that are in place to protect students on their way to and from school). We have made changes where changes were necessary and we will continue to review and refine our safety procedures and practice our drills.

I am very proud of the work our teachers, support staff, and administrators – especially the five school principals – have done to enhance learning opportunities and achievement outcomes for all students. Our work together in the schools and communities is complex, sometimes overwhelming, and yet unquestionably essential and rewarding. Together we make a positive difference in the lives of our students, their families, and the communities in which we work. We are increasingly coming together as a "Hampshire Regional Community" and engaging in shared commitment for improving the education we provide to our children. I encourage you to visit the individual school's or Superintendent's website (www.hr-k12.org) for current news and information about our students and District activities. Whenever you have a question or wish to become involved in your community schools, please call me.

Respectfully Submitted by
Craig Jurgensen
Superintendent of Schools

Pupil Services Annual Report 2011-2012

During 2012, the Pupil Services Department of the Hampshire Regional School District provided support services to approximately 650 students within the District's five public schools as well as in specialized programs in the region. These services consisted of educational assistance and remediation aligned with the established regulations of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), policies and laws for educating students with limited English proficiency and the McKinney-Vento Act for serving homeless students. Direct related services included the following: speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, vision and mobility therapy, support for students with hearing impairments, therapies for students with an Autism Spectrum Disorder and support/training for their families, counseling, and behavior management.

Special education students receiving services in the district were provided access to each school's curriculum. The least restrictive environment, a best practice concept, mandated by IDEA and the State special education regulations provides for special education within our schools. Some of our elementary schools have developed inclusion

classrooms and/or specific subjects where students are taught using a co-teaching model with the regular classroom teacher and the special education teacher.

The Life Skills program at Hampshire Regional High School, serves students from 7th grade to age 22 with multiple needs. Participation in this program provides students with ongoing access to a pragmatically based academic program as well as education in skills needed for daily independent living, vocational and social success. Students are placed in community-based jobs with coaches who provide them with guidance and support, allowing for immediate feedback while learning in an environment where skills are practiced in "real time".

In September, a Language Based Disabilities program was implemented at Hampshire Regional. This program supports students with Language based learning disabilities in being successful learners in the district. Additionally, a new collaboration with Clarke School for the Deaf provides specialized instruction and supports in mainstream classes for students with moderate to profound hearing loss.

Our district preschools provided an exceptional job serving young students with disabilities in an integrated setting. Our programs are language-based and provide intensive related services within the typical preschool setting giving all children an enriched program and allowing students to maximize the development of peer related social skills and readiness for academic learning.

In July, Laurie Farkas who had been the Pupil Services Director since March 2006, left Hampshire Regional to become the Director of Pupil Services for the Northampton School Department. Irene Ryan who previously worked for the Ludlow School Department started work as Hampshire's Director of Pupil Services on October 15, 2012.

The Pupil Services Department provides a wide array of training and in-service opportunities during the school year. Training is provided in the areas of working with children on the Autism Spectrum, special education regulations and the development of IEPs, de-escalation/restraint training, the development of MCAS alternative assessment portfolios, reading and writing instruction, and the instruction of English Language Learners. Preschool teachers met regularly to enhance their individual work at their respective schools

through sharing strategies and aligning curriculum/assessment for all district preschool students.

Additionally, the Pupil Services Department has actively engaged in efforts to establish and maintain an active Parent Advisory Council. Officers will be elected at a PAC meeting in 2013 and monthly meetings are planned. The HRSD PAC joins the Northampton PAC for parent trainings and other council development opportunities.

The breadth and depth of services and programs offered to the students of the Hampshire Regional School District is formidable and provided by skilled faculty working as a team with parents, classroom teachers, community members, and administrators. We continue to strengthen these services through aligning our approach to remediation in the primary subject areas, further implementation of school-wide curriculum based assessment and the development of student goals based on data, and the training of classroom teachers in areas necessary to enable them to reach all students in their classrooms more effectively.

Respectfully submitted by:

Irene Ryan
Director of Pupil Services

HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL

Dear Families and Friends of HRHS,

We would like to express a heartfelt "Thank You" from the school community for your continued support of learning at HRHS. Due to your strong support we are able to offer a breadth of learning opportunities across classrooms, labs, stages, fields, courts and online. As more and more people around the world become educated and access to information grows exponentially it is imperative that the HRHS community continue to shape the education of our students for this changing world. Continued advocacy from the community of HRHS, even in the shadow of a challenging economy, demonstrates your resolve to improve learning for our students.

I am proud to summarize the picture that forms in my mind as I read this report and reflect on our collective efforts. I see a system dedicated

to ensuring success for every student. We do this by providing clear student expectations, differentiated instruction based on what data tells us about each student, and challenging curriculum tied to standards. I see a system that ensures a safe and healthy school environment by insisting on an orderly climate, actively engaging parents and holding high expectations for all. I see a learning organization dedicated to continuous improvement – one committed to being tenacious and making decisions based on what the data and research tells us works, rather than past practice or what is popular. I see teachers and leaders working together to realize our common mission.

I am proud to serve an organization that exemplifies such talent, ambition and creativity. From the school committee to the teachers, from para-educators to administrators, to bus drivers, cafeteria workers, to maintenance, data managers and bookkeepers, each one provides an important piece of the system. I am grateful to be a part of such a system.

Our goal is to continually improve our systems of support and delivery of instruction so that all of our students are engaged in rigorous and engaging learning. This belief guides our decision-making as we prepare students to navigate the future. We will continue to explore what we teach and how people learn to support students for a world that changes so rapidly. We live in a world that values the ability to understand other cultures, apply complex and critical thinking skills, exhibit teamwork and leadership qualities, access reliable information and utilize appropriate technologies. As many call for sweeping changes in education, HRHS will move thoughtfully as we embark upon significant change in our learning organization. We must blend what we know improves student learning with research, technology and cost-sensitivity. Above all we must keep the focus on all HRHS students and continue to foster multiple paths for students to experience success through appropriate academic rigor and with appropriate support. Specifically, our learning will encompass three tenets that we believe will enhance student learning:

- Instruction
    - This area focuses on curriculum, instruction and assessment via differentiation, standards-based instruction & assessment, formative & summative assessment methodology, and integrated learning.

- Opportunities
    - This area is developing standards-based Extended Learning Opportunities through the mediums of on-line learning, internships/apprenticeships, independent studies, college courses and self-directed & interest-based learning.
- Communication
    - This area challenges teachers and students to develop and implement a standards-based e-portfolio system that empowers students to capture and convey essential information about their skills, strengths, challenges, goals, interests and learning styles. This essential information will be used by students, teachers and parents to reflect, share and plan for the future.

The HRHS Learning Community has consistently demonstrated their support for learning and high expectations for students and staff. Our students and educators work collaboratively and creatively to reveal depth in content and skills while compassionately addressing whatever arises in the complex world of adolescence. I feel immeasurably grateful to work with such a dedicated and caring group of students and staff who never cease to amaze!

It is my privilege to serve the students and families of Hampshire Regional School District. It is an honor to work with the teachers, administrators, and school committee whose collective efforts are singularly focused on achieving the very best results. I look forward to my continued work with all of you.

Laurie A. Hodgdon, Ed.D, Principal
Hampshire Regional Middle & High School

School Enrollment 2012

GRADE	7	8	9	10	11	12
Enrollment	135	138	137	127	128	123

School Committee Members for 2011-12

Donald Abel
Polly Belhke
Diane Bishop
Sarah Christiansen
Patricia Colson-Montgomery, Chair
William Curran
Kristin Estelle
Vanessa Fish
Janice Gibeau
Joseph Moynahan
David Nardi
Ashleigh Norris
Karl Norris
Brigid O'Riordan, Alternate
Jeannette Rizoa
Carl Schlerman
Kim Schott
Betsy Todd
Nicole Walden, Alternate
Tarin Weiss

REPORT OF THE WESTHAMPTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal Deane Bates is pleased to report on a very positive school year to the Westhampton community. At this writing, I am completing my tenth year as Principal of the Westhampton Elementary School. As I reflect on the last several years, I have seen a strong trend of continued improvement and growth in our educational program. Our school compares favorably with other public schools at both the local and state levels. We continue to rank among the highest in the state with regard to MCAS testing. I am pleased to be part of such a highly effective and conscientious school staff. Although the staff and I are proud of our success, we recognize that academic prowess represents only one piece of a successful elementary school experience.

As you may be aware, strict federal and state education reform laws continue to influence local decisions involving our school committee and district wide administration. New changes in laws concerning teacher evaluation, along with recent revisions to the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks provide a framework for many of our district wide initiatives for the coming year.

We had some staffing changes this year. First, I am happy to announce that Sarah Moylan, our fifth grade teacher, will welcome her second child into her family sometime in March. Donna Barcomb who is a certified teacher and works, as a Para-professional in fifth grade, will be the substitute teacher during Sarah's maternity leave. Another staff

change this year includes, Natalee Dias who worked as a para-professional last year has been hired as our art teacher. Natalee is a certified teacher and her experience from last year has helped her make a smooth transition with our students and staff. Alison Labrecque has rejoined our staff as a para in the fourth grade. Dennis Campbell has been hired as a para in Kindergarten. Dennis previously worked for many years as an art teacher in the Easthampton public schools.

We continue our work in updating and augmenting our curriculum and educational materials to offer the best possible equipment and resources for our students. We have continued to develop and refine our use of the Story Grammar Marker program that acts as a bridge for all of our students' English language arts experiences. We have augmented our reading program by purchasing leveled literacy intervention kits for use by our reading specialist Erin Zimbler. Our school librarian Karen Rousseau has continued to expand the therapy dog program in which students read to therapy dogs. This year it was a centerpiece in our "Literacy Night" program.

We continue to build a comprehensive technology program. As you may know, over the last few years we have invested in a mobile wireless computer lab and have integrated technology into all aspects of our curriculum students' daily experience. In addition to the use of our mobile lab, many of our teachers are integrating interactive projectors, document cameras and similar technologies into their daily classroom instruction. Most recently our speech and special education teachers have been using ipads to help students more easily access areas of the curriculum. The integration of technology is helping our students and teachers access our curriculum in creative and interesting ways.

In addition, we have dedicated some of the revenue that we receive from school choice funds to hire John Heffernan to teach robotics. John works as the technology teacher at Williamsburg schools and has been teaching similar courses throughout the Hampshire Regional district. Our students are excited about learning to use technology to problem solve and build their own simple robots.

Safety continues to be a major focus of our work together. Our staff and students worked with local fire and police as well as representatives, from the state police to improve and refine our safety plan in the event of an emergency. Again this year, we had opportunities to practice fire drills and a lock down drill with support

from emergency service personnel. These drills are an important part of emergency preparedness. Officer Phil provided training for students in grades pre-school through 4th grade in personal safety and making good choices. We continue to update and refine our policies and practices regarding life threatening allergies and responding to crisis situations at recess. All of our staff members have received training in responding to these types of emergencies. I want to express appreciation to Police Chief Dave White and Fire Chief Chris Norris, school committee member Ashleigh Norris and all members of our local emergency services for their dedication and support in helping our students and staff make our school a safe place for children.

Finally, we continue with our bullying education and awareness program, led by our school adjustment counselor Emilie Woodward. This year, Emilie and parent volunteer Sandy Skrocki have created a parent staff coalition to help inform and educate parents and students about internet and social media safety. We have also been working with Kristen Smidy, the assistant principal of Hampshire Regional, to offer educational opportunities and visiting speaker programs to our older students to help better prepare them for the transition to junior high and to use technology wisely.

The PTO is an important part of our school. Our PTO raises money for a variety of purposes, such as field trips and special performances for our students. They also help to enrich our school community by helping plan and sponsor special events like Grandparents' Day and Fun Day. A major focus for our PTO this year is to raise money for a new play structure. If you would like take part in the PTO, or if you have great ideas of your own that may benefit our school community, consider attending one of their monthly meetings.

In recent years, the School Choice Program has enabled us to have another source of revenue and helped us to continue to be more responsive to student needs. Although we have many applications each year for potential choice students we are conservative in accepting new students to ensure reasonable class sizes and maintain our ability to service students from our community. We will always do our best to meet the needs of our families and to be fiscally responsible partners with our town. We will continue to be a source of pride for our community.

Enrollment at Westhampton Elementary:

Grade	Pre-K	K	1	2	3	4	5	6
Enrollment	20	16	18	15	21	21	14	20

School Committee Members:

Ashleigh Norris
Jamiee Roncone
Brigid O'Riordan

Respectfully submitted,

Deane Bates, Principal

REPORT OF THE HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Hampshire Council of Governments (Council) is a membership based organization that solves common challenges through regional solutions while retaining local control over local affairs. The combined dues for the Council of Governments in Fiscal Year 2012 were $52,256. The dues collected help support Council programs and services. It is the continued goal of the Council to increase revenues from a variety of sources to offset the assessment and to expand services.

For every dollar spent on Council programs, participating western Massachusetts communities receive at least three dollars back in taxpayer savings and value. All of our programs and services are designed to save taxpayer money, keep investments local, and

contribute to a healthy, sustainable environment. You can also be sure that the revenue generated is reinvested into local communities.

The Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust serves 63 units in Hampshire, Franklin, and Hampden counties with over 4,500 members, which translates into more than 9,000 insured participants. In 2012, the Trust saved members in excess of $3.2 million in insurance costs when compared to the State benchmark. Since 2006, the Council's electricity customers have saved over $2.1 million as compared to the default utility service price. These are dollars that can be used to improve town services, hire new teachers, or keep tax rates stable.

In Fiscal Year 2012 the Town of Westhampton used the following Council programs and services with an estimated savings and value of $38,611: Hampshire Power; Municipal Aggregation; Municipal Solar RFP; Hampshire Cooperative Purchasing; Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust; RSVP of Hampshire & Franklin Counties; Tobacco Free Community Partnership for Hampshire and Franklin Counties.

Programs and services that the Town did not use for additional savings and value include Healthy Hampshire/Mass In Motion grant; grant research and writing; green community support; sustainability and green energy consulting; Hampshire IT. By taking advantage of the unused programs and services the town can maximize value and increase savings. It is also suggested that the Town sign up for free IT security check provided by Hampshire IT.
The Council achieved several key goals in Fiscal Year 2012.

- Zero percent increase in health insurance premiums for the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust.
- The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program provided more than 124,000 hours of service to our communities, equaling a contribution of more than $3.2 million.
- Towns of Hatfield and South Hadley rejoined Council membership.
- Moving forward with fundraising for Courthouse building renovations, repairs, and preservation.
- Hampshire/Municipal Solar Program.
- Solar Renewable Energy Certificates Aggregation.
- New Program: Regional Municipal Accounting and Bookkeeping service.
- New Program: Hampshire Information Technology Program.

Administration

The Council continues to enhance current programs and services while looking to develop new projects to increase savings and value for our members. Continued Administration efforts include a review of membership benefits, marketing, and encouraging support of local businesses. Meetings with local elected and appointed officials and outside organizations were held to help with development of new programs and services and to provide information about the Council's evolving mission.

May 7th was the opening ceremony celebrating Hampshire County's 350th Anniversary. The event was attended by local elected and appointed officials and legislators. The Governor proclaimed May 7, 2012, to be Hampshire County Day and a joint Senate and House Resolution honoring Hampshire County Day acknowledged the County's richness and diversity of history, and its cultural and educational presence. May 7th was also the first time that copies of a part of the County's vast historic archive of maps and historic documents were made available for sale in cooperation with the Special Collections at UMass Archives. Proceeds from the sale go to the preservation and restoration of the historic Courthouse. Other 350th celebrations included local historic commissions, societies, and museums displaying a portion of their collections and meeting with the public touring the exhibits as part of the Arts Night Out.

The Council began a campaign to address significant areas of deterioration of the structural integrity of the historic Courthouse. The cost to restore the Courthouse is in excess of $3.7 million. The Council has approached local Community Preservation Act Committees requesting financial support. State and federal funding sources will also be identified because the building is owned by the 'inhabitants of Hampshire County' and is our shared historic legacy.

The Council was pleased to welcome the Towns of Hatfield and South Hadley as returning Council members. For the second year in a row the Councilors awarded scholarships to help support graduating high school students who have demonstrated civic and community involvement and maintained a grade point average of 3.0 or above. The Councilors also doubled the number of scholarships awarded to four.

Electricity Department

In Fiscal Year 2012, electricity prices in New England dropped to historically low levels, prompting a change of strategy towards new customers. Instead of recruiting new customers for its supply program, Hampshire Power expanded its services by becoming a

licensed broker for fixed price electricity and sold a number of large contracts with major energy companies at extremely favorable rates. About 20 percent of Hampshire Power's load is now brokered through these fixed-price multi-year arrangements. Meanwhile, the Real-Time indexed program saved Hampshire Power customers $212,348.53 in Fiscal Year 2012, with a total cumulative savings of $2.1 million since the program's inception in 2006.

Municipal Aggregation
The Municipal Aggregation program for residential and business customers moved forward with the filing of a plan on behalf of twenty-eight communities. The Department of Energy Resources recommended approval of the plan by the Department of Public Utilities. Additional towns are expected to sign agreements to join the program in the coming months. With its Hampshire Green option, Municipal Aggregation will complement the Council's Sustainability programs.

Municipal Services

Cooperative Purchasing
The Hampshire Purchasing Cooperative is celebrating its 31st year serving the purchasing needs of western Massachusetts' communities and school districts. The program coordinates and administers a formal bidding process on behalf of Council departments, municipalities, school districts, human service agencies, and miscellaneous governmental entities throughout the Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire County region. Buying in bulk generates added savings over lone bidding efforts while complying with state procurement statutes and eliminating duplication of administrative work. The total purchasing volume for goods and services for Fiscal Year 2012 was $5,173,292.05 with an estimated savings of $733,098.49 for participating communities.

Hampshire Inspection Program
After many years of providing inspection and zoning services, the program was discontinued.

Hampshire IT
The Council initiated a professional, affordable, and comprehensive IT service tailored to our member communities by

partnering with Paragus, Strategic IT. The rapid evolution of technology and the growing expectation of citizens to interact with government electronically combined with the requirements of the Data Privacy Law, the need to have secure and comprehensive information technology capacity has dramatically increased. Currently Hadley is being provided this service and we expect rapid growth in the future.

Regional Municipal Accounting and Bookkeeping
Recognizing that towns have experienced a decline in available and qualified town accountants, the Council established a professional accounting and bookkeeping service. In Fiscal Year 2012 the Council provided accounting services for the Town of Granby, WiredWest, Springfield Materials Recycling Facility, Hampshire Group Insurance Trust, and Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative.

Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust (HCGIT)
The Trust has once again held their costs down with NO premium increases for the 2012 insurance year. With the Trust premiums remaining flat our member towns were better able to utilize any increase in town funds to cover other expenses.

The Hampshire Councilors serve as the trustees of the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust, a cooperative effort to provide health and life insurance with excellent benefits at competitive rates. An Insurance Advisory Committee, made up of representatives of all participating units, meets regularly to discuss problems and possible solutions and to explore new ideas. The Trust manages a self-funded group of health insurance products.

In the Insurance Year 2012 (April 1, 2011, to March 31, 2012), the collective premium for the Trust was slightly over $47M. Through the efforts and expertise of the Trust management, the volume of participation in the program, and the participation of the town representatives on the Advisory Board, the Insurance Trust is successful at managing costs while providing excellent health benefits.

Wellness Initiative Program
The Wellness Initiative is a worksite wellness program promoting healthier choices and behaviors amongst employees covered by the HCGIT.

The Wellness Initiative utilizes health risk data and employees' needs and interest surveys to develop program strategies to address the risk factors of the insured. During 2011 eight (8) mini grants were awarded to fund Worksite Wellness Teams, including one to the Belchertown School District, These teams develop and implement the wellness programs at their worksite, using the data to develop evidence based programs to address the risks of their populations.

Sustainability Department

In June 2011 the Hampshire Council of Governments created the position of Sustainability Director and hired Eric Weiss to promote green energy development and energy conservation projects throughout the Western Massachusetts region. The Council is involved in a long term effort to support the local and regional economy and help it to become more sustainable.

In Fiscal Year 2012 the Sustainability Department has;

- Initiated and managed a Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECS) brokering program which as of 6/30/12 had 206kW (35 clients) under contract.
- Created and administered a large multi-county RFP to promote the development of solar PV projects in Municipalities throughout Western Massachusetts. The RFP covered 115 properties in 38 Communities throughout Western Massachusetts; we received proposals from 5 vendors.
- Assisted the Town of Middlefield to implement its Green Community Energy reduction plan by assisting with the bidding and construction of a 12kW solar array at the Town hall as well as energy consumption improvement efforts for other Town buildings.
- Worked closely with Hampshire Power to create and offer and financial viable solar net metering option for Hampshire Power member municipalities.

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

RSVP of Hampshire & Franklin Counties is the Council's community service program that mobilizes adults age 55+ to meet community needs by recruiting, placing, and supporting volunteers in a diverse array of service opportunities at local non-profit and public agencies. RSVP matches people with experience and skills to offer with organizations that need their help. The program benefits the senior population by keeping them active and engaged, and benefits our

region by bringing these volunteers' dedication, wisdom, and expertise to bear on our communities' most pressing needs.

During Fiscal Year 2012, 722 RSVP volunteers gave more than 124,000 hours of service to our communities, equaling a contribution of more than $3.2 million. RSVP volunteers serve at hospitals, nursing homes, schools, libraries, after school programs, survival centers, and senior centers in towns across the two counties.

The Tobacco Free Community Partnership (TFCP)
The Hampshire and Franklin County Tobacco Free Community Partnership (TFCP) supports communities' efforts to lower smoking prevalence and exposure to secondhand smoke by enhancing state and local tobacco control efforts, exposing tobacco industry tactics, mobilizing the community to support and adopt evidence-based policies, and changing social norms.

For further information on Council programs, expenses, and revenues, please contact the Councilors' Office at 413-584-1300 ext. 2. You may also visit the Council website at www.hampshirecog.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Ford
Executive Director
Hampshire Council of Governments

SALARIES

All figures are annual unless otherwise noted.

ELECTED OFFCIALS	FY13	Proposed F14
Selectboard Chairman	1450	1475
Others	1250	1275
Board of Assessors Chairman	2725	2750
Others	2475	2500
Board of Health each	550	575
Tax Collector	13658	13999
Treasurer	13658	13999
Auditor	400	425
Moderator	400	425
School Committee Chairman	430	455
Others	400	425
Tree Warden	550	575
APPOINTED OFFICIALS		
Accounting Officer	11680	11972
Town Clerk	10250	12000
Clerk, Bd. Registrars	100	100
Election Workers	8.41/hr.	8.62/hr.
Administrative Assistant	16281	30000
Assessor Assistant	19.86/hr.	13500
COA Coordinator	12.30/hr.	12.61/hr.
Animal Inspector	734	759
Health Agent	15.76	16.15
Veterans Agent	1538	1576
Building Inspector	8931	9154
Wiring	30/inspection	30/inspection
Plumbing Inspectors	20/inspection	20/inspection
Sanitation Inspector	25/inspection	25/inspection
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT		
Grade1A	22.18	22.68
Grade 1	21.16	21.66
Superintendent	56601	58016
LANDFILL Caretaker	11.31/hr.	11.59/hr.
LIBRARY Director	42741	43810
Staff Librarian	14.36/hour	14.72
Custodian	10.25/hour	10.51
Program Organizer	9.45/hour	500
TOWN HALL Custodian	11.59/hour	11.88
Snow Removal	15.76/hour	16.15
POLICE CHIEF	25612	26252
Officers – Regular	15.00/hour	15.38/hr.
Sergeant	18.00/hour	18.45/hr.
Court	16.54/hour	16.95
FIRE CHIEF	10,250	10506
EMERGENCY MGT DIR	366	391
CEMETERY CARETAKER	5608	5748

PROPOSED BUDGET FISCAL 2014

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	FY2013	FY2014
Counsel Fees	8000	10000
Moderator	400	425
Selectboard Salary	3950	4025
Selectboard Expense	3750	4950
Administrative Assistant	16281	30000
Auditor Salary	400	425
Accounting Officer Salary	11680	11972
Accounting Office Expense	2685	3865
Audit	6500	14000
IT contract		4800
Assessor Salary	7675	7750
Assessor Expense	18200	8925
Assessor Assistant	14350	13500
Assessor Secretary	969	0
Treasurer Salary	13658	13999
Treasurer Expense	4875	5400
Tax Title Expense		8025
Tax Collector Salary	13658	13999
Tax Collector Expense	11875	12483
Town Clerk Salary	10250	12000
Town Clerk Expense	4000	4000
Clerk, Board of Registrars	100	100
Conservation Commission	150	200
Zoning Board Expense	600	600
Planning Board Expense	200	200
HIGHWAYS		
Highway Administration	4000	4100
Highway Salaries	194366	199225
Highway Materials	91719	94011
Road Machinery	40824	41844
Road Machinery Fuel	40800	41820
Snow Removal	80000	102000
Road Machinery Buildings	27748	28441
Sander		8500
SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES		
Hampshire Regional HS	1109519	1152486
HRHS Capital	81317	81932
Vocational Tuition	264300	305290
Vocational Transportation	42638	41690
Elementary School	1327229	1365473
Elementary School Parking Lot		74000
School Committee Salary	1230	1305
Library	81733	85921
VETERANS		
Veterans Expense	2000	10000

Veterans Agent Salary	1538	1576
Memorial Day	200	200
Cultural Council	75	75
CEMETERIES		
Cemetery Salary	5608	5748
PROT. OF PERS & PROP		
Police Chief	25612	26252
Police Department	45528	47933
Police Capital	5300	0
Fire Chief	10250	10506
Emergency Mgt Director	366	391
Fire Department	22900	22900
Safety Complex	13425	14125
Fire air foam system	0	35000
Emergency Medical Services	16150	8550
Inspector Salary	13231	14431
Inspector Expense	1250	1250
Tree Warden Expense	2000	2000
Tree Warden Salary	550	575
Animal Inspector	734	759
HEALTH & SANITATION		
Hilltown Resource Mgt. Coop.	4269	4269
Board of Health Salary	1650	1725
Board of Health Expense	73060	71960
Health Agent	6200	6355
Compactor	25000	0
DEBT & INTEREST		
Long Term Debt	130000	135000
Interest Long Term Debt	39300	34100
UNCLASSIFIED		
Insurance & Bonds	66000	77000
Town Offices	20800	22550
Town Hall Porch		10000
Council on Aging	3200	3200
COA Coordinator	1063	1090
Historical	1200	1200
Blacksmith Shop Roof	10000	0
County Retirement	127163	136298
Council of Governments	1521	1521
Pioneer Valley Planning Council	242	242
Unemployment (Article 15)	16000	17000
Group Insurance	315000	335000
OPEB Trust Fund		5000
Medicare	24000	25000
Reserve Fund	10000	20000
TOTAL	4,703,452	4,924,462

ARTICLES ON THE WARRANT
MAY 11, 2013 Annual Town Meeting
JUNE 1, 2013 Annual Election

ARTICLE 1: To hear and act on all reports presented at said meeting.

ARTICLE 2: To elect by ballot necessary officers to serve the ensuing year, and vote on Questions 1, 2 and 3.

Selectboard	One for three years
Board of Assessors	One for three years
Planning Board	Two for three years
Board of Health	One for one year
Board of Health	One for three years
Finance Committee	One for two years
Finance Committee	Three for three years
Elementary School Committee	One for three years
Moderator	One for one year
Auditor	One for one year
Tree Warden	One for one year
Recreation Committee	One for three years
Library Trustees	Two for three years
Constable (North District)	One for three years
Hampshire Councilor	One for three years

Question 1: Shall the Town of Westhampton vote to have its elected Tax Collector become an appointed Tax Collector of the Town?

Yes No

Question 2: Shall the Town of Westhampton vote to have its elected Town Treasurer become an appointed Town Treasurer of the Town?

Yes No

Question 3: Shall the Town of Westhampton be allowed to assess an additional $50,000 in real and personal property taxes for purposes of funding the capital stabilization fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013?

Yes No

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to accept by unanimous consent and without debate the following five articles or any combination of them: Article 4, Care of the Highways, Article 14, Unemployment Benefits; ~~Article 20,~~ Chapter 90 Highway Funds; Article 21, Fire Department Revolving Fund; Article 22, Cemetery Revolving Fund.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to leave the care of the highways in charge of the Selectmen.

ARTICLE 5: To vote in compliance with Section 108, Chapter 41 G.L., which requires that salaries of elected officials be fixed by vote of the Town.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, such sum of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges in the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money to meet Westhampton's share of Hampshire Regional School District's assessment for Fiscal 2014, or any lesser sum as may be certified by the District, provided that any such certification shall be made prior to the establishment of the tax rate, and to meet this appropriation, a sum of money be raised by taxation, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money to meet Westhampton's share of Hampshire Regional School District's capital assessment for Fiscal 2014, or any lesser sum as may be certified by the District, provided that any such certification shall be made prior to the establishment of the tax rate, and to meet this appropriation, a sum of money be raised by taxation, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for the Elementary School, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for Vocational school tuition, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for Vocational school transportation, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for a Financial Audit for the Town, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for a Sander for the Highway Department for the Town, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide $16,000 to hold in anticipation of unemployment benefits for Town employees in accordance with Chapter 151A of the General Laws of Massachusetts.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise proved a sum pf money for Information Technology services for the Town, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to establish an Ambulance Receipts Reserved For Appropriation Account. Beginning in FY2014, one hundred (100) percent of the receipts collected in each fiscal year are to be deposited to this account, with appropriations from said account to be made at either annual or special town meetings for the purpose of maintaining and operating the Town's ambulance service, i.e. wages for Department personnel, employee benefits, office expense, vehicle maintenance, fuel, equipment, operating supplies, and purchase of ambulances, etc. Any balance in said account to be carried forward to subsequent years, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money to reconstruct the driveway and parking lot at the Elementary School, and to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, by borrowing, or otherwise, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money to retro-fit Fire Engine 1 with a Compressed Air Foam System and new 2" attack hose, and to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available

funds, by borrowing, or otherwise, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money repair the Town Hall porch, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money as may be certified from available funds, due to the Town as Chapter 90 Highway funds, from the Transportation Bond Issue, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a revolving fund in not to exceed $2000 for the Fire Department, under MGL Chapter 44, sec 53 E1/2, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a revolving fund not to exceed $6000 for the Westhampton Cemetery, under MGL Chapter 44, Sec 53 E1/2, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from Free Cash to reduce the tax rate, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Stabilization Fund to be used for capital purposes, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money for the Capital Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the balance of the General Stabilization Fund to the Capital Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32B, Section 20, which authorizes the Town to establish an Other Post Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund to reduce the unfunded liability of health care and other post employment benefits to meet the normal cost of all such future benefits for which the Town of Westhampton is obligated, or take any action relative thereto.

5,000 ARTICLE 28 : To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money to the Trust Fund established under MGL Chapter 32B, Section 20 for Other Post Employment Benefits Liability, or take any action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 29 : To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to enter into renewable energy power purchase and/or net metering credit purchase agreements, including solar energy and related net electricity metering credits, for terms of more than three years, on such terms and conditions as the Selectboard deem in the best interest of the Town, and to take all actions necessary to implement and administer such agreements, or act on anything relative thereto."

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to appoint a Town Accountant in accordance with Ch 41:55 and further vote to abolish the elected position of auditor also in accordance with Ch. 41:55., or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Westhampton General Bylaws as follows:

Article 2 Section 2-1-1 Officers to be Elected: Delete: "a tax collector, elected for a term of three years", "a town treasurer, elected for a term of three years," and "an auditor, elected for a term of one year."

June

Article 3: 3-1-1Boards to be Elected: (k) a Hampshire Council of Governments Commissioner for a three year term.

Article 4 The Selectboard: Section 5 Powers of Appointment: add subsection 4-5-4 The Selectboard shall also appoint a Tax Collector, for a term not to exceed three (3) years, in accordance with G.L. c.41, §1B.

Article 4 The Selectboard: Section 5 Powers of Appointment: add subsection 4-5-5 The Selectboard shall also appoint a Town Treasurer, for a term not to exceed three (3) years, in accordance with G.L. c.41, §1B.

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to acquire by purchase, gift, and/or eminent domain the fee and/or permanent and temporary easements in certain parcels of land, adjacent to and/or in the vicinity of the North Road Bridge and North Road Bridge Improvement Project, so-called, as depicted on a plan entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division Plan and Profile of North Road (Bridge W-27-015) in the Town of Westhampton Hampshire County," dated February 28, 2013, as may be amended or revised, said plan which is on file with the Town Clerk, and also to acquire the fee and/or permanent and temporary easements in parcels of land located within 200 feet of said parcels, as such additional areas may be shown on said plan, as hereinafter amended or revised, for public way purposes, including, without limitation, drainage, slope, utility, construction of improvements and structures, and other related purposes, to enable the Town to acquire the necessary interests for the North Road Bridge Improvement Project, ~~and further to~~ raise and appropriate, or appropriate by transfer, or by borrowing a sum of money for the acquisition of said property interests, and for the costs and expenses associated therewith, or to take any action related thereto.

NOTE: This is a preliminary list of the articles for the Annual Town Meeting; it is subject to change and/or additions. The final warrant will be posted at least seven days before the Annual Meeting, May 11th

PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT WITH YOU TO THE ANNUAL MEETING.

TOWN OF WESTHAMPTON CAPITAL PLANNING REQUEST

DEPARTMENT	Request	Life Exp.	Cost Est.	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Future
Highway Dept										
	(1985) Grader	30 yrs	$ 225,000			$ 225,000				
	(1997) Dump Truck 4wd	19 yrs	$ 150,000			$ 150,000				
	(2001) Dump Truck	15 yrs	$ 150,000			$ 150,000				
	(2007) Loader	10 yrs	$ 120,000				$ 120,000			
	(2009) Pick Up	10 yrs	$ 50,000						$ 50,000	
	(2006) Dump Truck	15 yrs	$ 150,000							2021
	(2012) Backhoe	15yrs	$ 150,000							2027
Elem School	Paving Parking Lot rear	20yrs	$ 74,000	$ 74,000						
	Replace Roof	20yrs	$ 250,000				$ 250,000			
Selectboard	Town Hall Porch	15-20	$ 10,000	$ 10,000						
	Town Hall Paint Exterior	7-10 yrs	$ 38,000		$ 38,000					
	Town Hall Vinyl Siding	30+ yrs			X					
	Town Hall Roof				X					
Police Dept.	Technology Update	5 yrs	$ 10,000		$ 10,000					2020
	Patrol Vehicle	8-10 yrs	$ 45,000			$ 45,000			$ 45,000	
Fire Dept.	Public Safety complex	50 yrs	$ 3,500,000					$ 3,500,000		
	Feasibility/designs/fees		$ 50,000				$ 50,000			
	Replace Tanker	20 yrs	$ 350,000			$ 350,000				
	Staff Vehicle	10 yrs								
	Compressed air foam unit	15 yrs	$ 35,000	$ 35,000						
	Ambulance	10 yrs	$ 80,000				$ 80,000			
	Replace 1987 Engine	20 yrs	$ 800,000					$ 800,000	new bldg in service?	
	Replace 1997 SCBA	10 yrs	$ 150,000		$ 150,000					
		TOTALS	$ 6,387,000	$ 119,000	$ 198,000	$ 920,000	$ 500,000	$ 4,300,000	$ 95,000	
Debt Schedule:										
DPW bldg. & fire truck: 11/172003		15 yrs		130,000	$ 135,000	$ 140,000	$ 145,000	$ 150,000	$ 155,000	
HRHS reconstruction out to 2026				80,000	$ 80,000	$ 80,000	$ 80,000	$ 80,000	$ 80,000	
	TOTAL DEBT			$ 329,000	$ 611,000	$ 1,140,000	$ 725,000	$ 4,530,000	$ 330,000	

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